

NO. LON/POL/103/17/2000

(7)

(36)

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
(POLITICAL WING)

corr: Page 1 to 245
Total 245

SUB: JUSTICE MUKHERJI COMMISSION
ON

keep

28/12/15



TO LOOK INTO THE
DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHASH
CHANDRA

~~DECLASSIFIED~~
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

But there are

...

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)
संयुक्त सचिव (सी.एन.डी.)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Shashi Kumar

o/k ①

From: "Shashi Kumar" <shashi.kumar@hclondon.net>
To: <HilderGen@aol.com>
Sent: 19 January 2006 15:53
Subject: research for the following two references at the National Archives

Please send your quotations for undertaking the following work at the National Archives to the undersigned.

Full National Archives:PRO Reference: **HS 7/217**

We would like copies from this record:

BBC article "British attempted to kill Bose". Require copies of document regarding revelation about the plot to assassinate Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

2. Full National Archives:PRO Reference: **HS 7/220**

We would like copies from this record:

BBC article "British attempted to kill Bose". Require copies of document regarding revelation about the plot to assassinate Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

Shashi Kumar,
First Secretary(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London.
Tel:020-7632-3021
Fax:020-7632-3210
Email:shashi.kumar@hclondon.net.

19/01/2006

o/c
②
Shashi Kumar

From: "Shashi Kumar" <shashi.kumar@hclondon.net>
To: <sean.creighton@btopenworld.com>
Sent: 19 January 2006 15:55
Subject: research of the following articles at National Archives.

Pl. send the quotations to the undersigned for the following works:

Full National Archives:PRO Reference: **HS 7/217**

We would like copies from this record:

BBC article "British attempted to kill Bose". Require copies of document regarding revelation about the plot to assassinate Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

2. Full National Archives:PRO Reference: **HS 7/220**

We would like copies from this record:

BBC article "British attempted to kill Bose". Require copies of document regarding revelation about the plot to assassinate Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

Shashi Kumar,
First Secretary(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London.
Tel:020-7632-3021
Fax:020-7632-3210
Email:shashi.kumar@hclondon.net.

19/01/2006


Shashi Kumar

From: "Shashi Kumar" <shashi.kumar@hclondon.net>
To: "Record Copying Enquiries" <RecordCopyingEnquiries@nationalarchives.gov.uk>
Sent: 19 January 2006 15:59
Subject: Re: The National Archives

Dear Ashworth, Thanks for your reply. I have sent messages to Sean Creighton and Hilder Gen to undertake this work and send me quotations. Once these are received, a decision would be taken by the High Commission to assign the work to one of the researchers. with regards, shashi.

Shashi Kumar,
First Secretary(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London.
Tel:020-7632-3021
Fax:020-7632-3210
Email:shashi.kumar@hclondon.net.

----- Original Message -----

From: Record Copying Enquiries
To: Shashi Kumar
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2006 12:10 PM
Subject: RE: The National Archives

Dear Mrs Kumar,

Thank you for your query as to whether The National Archives can do the research for you. To expand a little on the information in the email my colleague sent you, The National Archives does not carry out research on behalf of our customers but we do provide a list of Independent Researchers so that customers who need research carried out on their behalf can do so easily. Here in Record Copying we have 20 minutes to find the material you describe and prepare the estimate. In this instance the item you described needs more searching for than we could attempt in that time. The link for the webpage from which you may find a list of Independent Researchers is www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/

Yours sincerely

Celia Ashworth
Record Copying Department
The National Archives
020 8876 3444 ext 2389/2438
recordcopyingenquiries@nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: Shashi Kumar [mailto:shashi.kumar@hclondon.net]
Sent: 09 January 2006 16:18
To: Record Copying Enquiries
Subject: Re: The National Archives

19/01/2006

(4)

Thank you for the reply. We want copies of the articles mentioned in the request form. You can get these items located by any one from your office or outsider and send it to us with your bill to the High Commission and it would be paid promptly. If still there are questions, I would love to answer.

Shashi Kumar,
First Secretary(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London.
Tel:020-7632-3021
Fax:020-7632-3210
Email:shashi.kumar@hcilondon.net.

----- Original Message -----

From: Record Copying Enquiries
To: shashi.kumar@hcilondon.net
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2006 3:58 PM
Subject: The National Archives

Thank you for your request for an estimate of the cost of record copying. The £10 estimate fee covers up to 20 minutes work by our staff to identify the material specified by you in up to 5 records, in order to estimate the copying cost.

Our preliminary search shows that your request would require more than 20 minutes work, as per our terms and conditions for such a request and so we are unable at this stage to proceed.*

There are two ways for you to identify the material that you want copied, assuming that it exists.

You, or someone acting on your behalf, are welcome to visit us in order to search the relevant records, in order to identify the material that you wish to be copied. Our staff will be happy to advise you on how to do this, free of charge. If you visit us, you will need to register as a researcher. To do this, please bring with you some proof of identity. If you are a citizen of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, please bring a driving licence or a banker's card or a passport. If you are a citizen of any other country, please bring your passport or national identity card. If you do not have this identification, please ring us on +44 (0)8392 5200 before you visit.

Or, you can hire an independent researcher to identify the material that you wish to be copied, and to arrange the ordering of copies. You can find such lists on our website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/
<<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/>> The fee that you will pay for this service is a matter for negotiation between yourself and the researcher.

If you require further information, please use the following link
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form
<<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form>>

Martyn Keeler
Record copying Dept, Ordering Section, The National Archives

19/01/2006



Tel : 020 8392 5330 Ext. 2438
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/recordcopying

FREE WiFi access now available at The National Archives in Kew

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/83.htm>

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For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>

Start your family history at The National Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/familyhistory/>

19/01/2006

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(6)

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19/01/2006

kindly advise future action id.

(7)

Shashi Kumar

Minister (Pol)

Kumar

From: "Record Copying Enquiries" <RecordCopyingEnquiries@nationalarchives.gov.uk>
To: "Shashi Kumar" <shashi.kumar@hcilondon.net>
Sent: 17 January 2006 12:10
Subject: RE: The National Archives

17/1

FR(P)

see that expenditure is reasonable.

FR(P) 17/1

H. suggest main ref.

Dear Mrs Kumar,

Thank you for your query as to whether The National Archives can do the research for you. To expand a little on the information in the email my colleague sent you, The National Archives does not carry out research on behalf of our customers but we do provide a list of Independent Researchers so that customers who need research carried out on their behalf can do so easily. Here in Record Copying we have 20 minutes to find the material you describe and prepare the estimate. In this instance the item you described needs more searching for than we could attempt in that time. The link for the webpage from which you may find a list of Independent Researchers is www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/

Yours sincerely

Celia Ashworth
 Record Copying Department
 The National Archives
 020 8876 3444 ext 2389/2438
recordcopyingenquiries@nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: Shashi Kumar [mailto:shashi.kumar@hcilondon.net]
Sent: 09 January 2006 16:18
To: Record Copying Enquiries
Subject: Re: The National Archives

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 Shashi Kumar,
 First Secretary(Pol)
 High Commission of India,
 London.
 Tel:020-7632-3021
 Fax:020-7632-3210
 Email:shashi.kumar@hcilondon.net.

----- Original Message -----

From: Record Copying Enquiries
To: shashi.kumar@hcilondon.net
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2006 3:58 PM
Subject: The National Archives

17/01/2006

(8)

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You, or someone acting on your behalf, are welcome to visit us in order to search the relevant records, in order to identify the material that you wish to be copied. Our staff will be happy to advise you on how to do this, free of charge. If you visit us, you will need to register as a researcher. To do this, please bring with you some proof of identity. If you are a citizen of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, please bring a driving licence or a banker's card or a passport. If you are a citizen of any other country, please bring your passport or national identity card. If you do not have this identification, please ring us on +44 (0)8392 5200 before you visit.

Or, you can hire an independent researcher to identify the material that you wish to be copied, and to arrange the ordering of copies. You can find such lists on our website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/ [<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/>](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/) The fee that you will pay for this service is a matter for negotiation between yourself and the researcher.

If you require further information, please use the following link
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form
[<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form>](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form)

Martyn Keeler
Record copying Dept, Ordering Section, The National Archives
Tel : 020 8392 5330 Ext. 2438
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/recordcopying

FREE WiFi access now available at The National Archives in Kew

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/83.htm>

National Archives Disclaimer

9

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This email has been scanned by the MessageLabs Email Security System.
For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>

Start your family history at The National Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/familyhistory/>

National Archives Disclaimer

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17/01/2006

S Shashi Kumar

Minister (Pl)

(10)
Sharma
9/1/06
FS(P)

From: "Record Copying Enquiries" <RecordCopyingEnquiries@nationalarchives.gov.uk>
To: <shashi.kumar@hclondon.net>
Sent: 06 January 2006 15:58
Subject: The National Archives

Thank you for your request for an estimate of the cost of record copying. The £10 estimate fee covers up to 20 minutes work by our staff to identify the material specified by you in up to 5 records, in order to estimate the copying cost.

Our preliminary search shows that your request would require more than 20 minutes work, as per our terms and conditions for such a request and so we are unable at this stage to proceed.*

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Or, you can hire an independent researcher to identify the material that you wish to be copied, and to arrange the ordering of copies. You can find such lists on our website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/ <<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/irlist/>> The fee that you will pay for this service is a matter for negotiation between yourself and the researcher.

If you require further information, please use the following link
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form <<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact/form>>

Martyn Keeler
 Record copying Dept, Ordering Section, The National Archives
 Tel : 020 8392 5330 Ext. 2438
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/recordcopying

- It would be better if they are asked to do this work - I hope the estimate is not too high though.

FREE WiFi access now available at The National Archives in Kew

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/83.htm>

FS(P) I have asked them to do. let us wait for their reply.

9/1

09/01/2006

Sz
10/1

Pw

11

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09/01/2006



Shashi Kumar
First Secretary(Political)
Tel:020-7836-4043
Email.shashi.kumar@hclondon.net

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London WC2B 4NA

No.LON/POL/103/17/2000

December 23, 2005

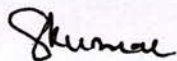
To
The Finance Department,
The National Archives,
Kew, Richmond,
Surrey, TW9 4DU

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please refer to your letter No.SL/RORD2 regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Enclosed please find a cheque No.265588 dated 20th December, 2005 for GBP 10/- alongwith duly completed form in order to obtain copies of documents in respect of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

I should be grateful if the required documents may kindly be sent at an early date.

Yours faithfully,


(Shashi Kumar)

Encl: as above



State Bank of India

15 King Street,
London EC2V 8EA

13

60-01-59

Date 20-12-05

Gordon Press 0304

PAY	The National Archives
	Pounds Ten only

ACCOUNT PAYEE ONLY

Cheque No.

Sort Code

Account No.

Authorised Signatory

Authorised Signatory

£ 10-00

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
CHANCERY A/C

[Signature]

⑈265588⑈ 6000159⑈ 10349901⑈

Section 1: Record References

Please send me copies of the following records (maximum of 5):

1. Full National Archives:PRO Reference: HS 7/217

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

This is concerning the BBC article "British attempted to Kill Bose"
Require copies of document regarding revelation about the
plot to assassinate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. Full National Archives:PRO Reference: HS 7/220

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

This is concerning the BBC article "British attempted to Kill Bose"
Require copies of document regarding revelation about the
plot to assassinate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

3. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

4. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

5. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

Please attach a separate sheet if the supplementary information cannot be fitted above and state any particular copying requirements below:



the national archives

pl. brokers.

Summer
12/12

16

Your Ref:

Our Ref: SL/RORD2

Date as postmark

The National Archives
Kew Richmond Surrey TW9 4DU
United Kingdom
Tel +44 (0)20 8876 3444
enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Archives, bringing together
the Public Record Office and the
Historical Manuscripts Commission

Dear Sir or Madam

Thank you for your interest in obtaining copies of documents held at the National Archives:PRO. For an initial charge of £10 we will spend a maximum of 20 minutes identifying what you need copying from up to 5 full references from the National Archives catalogue. If you are in any doubt about what constitutes such a reference, staff at the National Archives:PRO contact centre will be happy to assist you on the number provided. In many cases the initial payment may cover all copying charges, in which case your order will be processed without delay.

The completed copying will usually take another week from the target date of the estimate. If copying charges total more than £10 we will let you know how much the balance will be and you can then decide if you would like to proceed with the order. Please note that if the requested material cannot be found within the allocated time or your order is not taken up, the £10 initial charge covers any work carried out in respect of the estimate and is therefore, not refundable.

You can pay by credit card or Sterling cheque (*made payable to The National Archives*) by completing the corresponding sections of this form. If you decide to pay by cheque the please write your name and address on the reverse of the cheque. You can also request information from more than 5 documents by completing as many copies of this form as necessary, but please note that each set of 5 documents will incur a £10 charge. Additional forms can be supplied on request.

Once you have completed the form [redacted] please return [redacted] to The Finance Department, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU. (A business reply envelope is enclosed for UK customers.)

You can expect to hear from us within 10 working days of receipt of your initial payment and a representative of this office will be happy to answer any questions you may have during this time

Yours faithfully

Record Copying Department



Awarded for excellence



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Section 1: Record References

Please send me copies of the following records (maximum of 5):

1. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

2. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

3. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

4. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

5. Full National Archives:PRO Reference:

Please state exactly what you would like copied from this record:

Please attach a separate sheet if the supplementary information cannot be fitted above and state any particular copying requirements below:

Section 2: Customer Payment Details

Please complete all relevant sections on this page.

2.1 Name: _____

2.2 Address:

Postcode: Country:

Telephone Number: _____

FAX Number: _____

Email Address: _____

2.3	Do you wish your copies to be despatched by a method that includes compensation for loss or damage:	Yes No
-----	---	-----------

2.4 Please state here any other despatch requirements you may have:

Please indicate a preferred medium for your copies. We will strive to meet your requirements but may need to recommend an alternative in certain circumstances.

Monochrome:	
Colour:	

Paper:	
Digital:	

Online or CD Rom:

2.5 Method of payment for your estimate:

Sterling Cheque or Postal Order: Cash or debit card:

Card number:

[illegible]

Expiry date:

--	--	--	--

 Issue Date:

--	--	--	--

 Issue No:

--

 (SWITCH only)

Card Security No. (Last 3 Digits on Signature Strip)			
--	--	--	--

(Please note: all major cards accepted except AMEX and DINERS)

Name of Cardholder:

Statement Address of Cardholder:

(if different from above)

I have read and understood the conditions overleaf for providing copies and estimates:

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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1. Copies of Public Records in Crown Copyright: most public records in The National Archives are in Crown Copyright and the use of copies of them is subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Black and white copies and prints from publicly available film and fiche no restrictions
 - b) All other copies (including microform and digital copies, photographic prints and transparencies) may be used only for
 - research or private study
 - education: copies may be used, and further copies of those copies may be made, for education purposes in the course of instruction or examination, or of preparation for instruction or examination by a person giving or receiving the instruction or preparing or taking the examinationApplications for permission for any other use should be addressed to The National Archives Image Library.
2. Copies of Public Records in privately owned Copyright: are subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Use for the purpose of research, private study or education (as defined on 1(b) above) no restrictions, within the limits of fair dealing under UK copyright law
 - b) Other use: applications for permission for any other use must be addressed to
 - The current owner(s) of the copyright in the original document: anyone wishing to reproduce the material in transcript or facsimile is responsible for identifying the current owner and for obtaining any permission required.and to
 - The National Archives Image Library for use of the copy
3. Copies of non-public records and of published Copyright works held in The National Archives: are supplied subject to the customer completing a declaration form and observing the conditions it contains. **Any infringement of these conditions may result in legal action.**
The National Archives Copyright Officer will provide further information on request.

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5. Orders for copies placed in person at one of The National Archives' Reprographic Ordering counters are accepted in the following conditions:
 - a) The National Archives may cancel any order if the copying process paid for subsequently proves unsuitable, e.g. if it may damage the document or fail to produce good copies. If an order is cancelled for such reasons The National Archives will offer to refund the payment and if feasible will provide an estimate for completing the work by an alternative copying process
 - b) The National Archives may cancel the order and refund payments if markers are found to be missing, documents are incorrectly marked up, or customer's instructions are unclear.
 - c) If the customer's calculation of the number of copies required proves to be an under-estimate The National Archives will complete the order but will retain the copies until the balance of payment has been received. If it proves to be an overestimate The National Archives will refund the customers where the balance exceeds £3.00 (or £6.00 for overseas customers).
6. The National Archives will securely package copies for supply by post and will not accept liability in the event of damage or loss in transit. It can, however, arrange insurance cover at an additional cost if the customer requests it when they place their order. Such cover will usually be provided by a lower rate international recorded delivery unless otherwise requested by the customer.
7. Customers are advised to seek advice from their Internet Service Provider before placing any order for electronic images to be delivered electronically. Customers should note that email attachments are supplied in compressed jpeg format and CD images are supplied in tif format. A0 images can only be supplied on CD-ROM
8. The National Archives will aim to provide *research quality* copies, i.e. sufficient to convey the written or graphic information in the original document. There can be no guarantee that we will be able to do so, e.g. if the original documents are of poor quality, or that the copies will be suitable for any other purpose. Higher quality copies or copies suitable for other purposes can be supplied if requested when placing an order. Customers are advised to discuss their requirements with The National Archives staff to ensure the most suitable process can be recommended.
9. Image sizes:
 - a) Photocopies and digitally scanned images: The National Archives will normally produce copied images which are approximately the same size as the originals. Photocopies will normally be printed onto sheets of paper of the appropriate size in the A2 to A3 range (within preservation guidelines and at the discretion of the operator) and charges will be based on the size of the paper. In the case of digitally scanned copies the images will normally be printed onto paper approximately the same size as the original and charges will be based on the size category into which the paper falls (i.e. A0 to A1, A1 to A2, A2 to A3, A3 to A4). The National Archives can supply images or sheets of paper of different sizes if customers request it when they place their order.
 - b) Prints from microfilm: images will normally be printed onto A3 size paper and may be larger or smaller than the original documents
 - c) Photographs or transparencies can be supplied in specified dimensions. These will normally be required if a copy is for publication. The Image Library provides such images at rates indicated in the appropriate leaflet.

Deemed Acceptance

10. The National Archives will display these terms and conditions at all points of sale. Customers will be deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions by requesting an estimate, placing an order or by accepting copies by any means.

(17)

HCI
London
(Political Wing)

FR

Enclosed please find a letter from The National Archives regarding the procedure to procure the documents on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. On our query concerning the article entitled "British attempted to kill Bose", they have confirmed that they have the reference numbers HS 7/217 and HS 7/220 with them. We require to pay Pound 10/- as an advance to procure the copies of above documents from them.

Minister(Pol) is requested to kindly sign the voucher, which is placed below. Thereafter Accounts Section would be requested to make the payment.

[Signature]
13/12

FS(Pol)

Min(Pol)

Min(HOC)

Attache(Accounts)

[Signature] 13/12
[Signature]
18/12

High Commission of India, London
(Political Wing)

Vr No 228
ROE Rs 79.05
(18)

PAYMENT VOUCHER

(To be submitted in three sets along with copies of supporting documents)

File No. : LON/POL/103/17/2000 Dated 13.12.2005

Payable to : The National Archives

Head of Account : 110340415

Debitable to : CHANCERY

SanctionNo./Authority for payment : Lon/Pol/103/17/2000

Particulars of payment	Invoice No. & Date	Amount (in pounds)	Equivalent Rupees*
Amount Payment to procure copies of documents of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from The National Archives	Invoice No. Nil dated Nil	£10.00	
	Total amount	£10.00	790

* Column to be filled by Accounts Section.

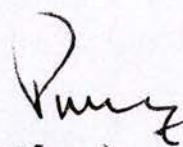
Certified that: (a) The payment is admissible in accordance with the rules.
(b) The amount claimed is in accordance with the approved rates
(c) The claim has been scrutinised and is in order.



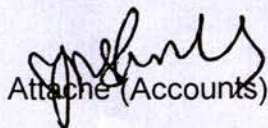
(Head of Wing)

Passed for payment of £ 10.00(Pounds Ten only)

Paid vide cheque No. 265588 dated _____
For £ _____



(P.M. Meena)
Head of Chancery



Attache (Accounts)



Your Ref:

Our Ref: SL/RORD2

Date as postmark

Dear Sir or Madam

Thank you for your interest in obtaining copies of documents held at the National Archives:PRO. For an initial charge of £10 we will spend a maximum of 20 minutes identifying what you need copying from up to 5 full references from the National Archives catalogue. If you are in any doubt about what constitutes such a reference, staff at the National Archives:PRO contact centre will be happy to assist you on the number provided. In many cases the initial payment may cover all copying charges, in which case your order will be processed without delay.

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You can pay by credit card or Sterling cheque (*made payable to The National Archives*) by completing the corresponding sections of this form. If you decide to pay by cheque the please write your name and address on the reverse of the cheque. You can also request information from more than 5 documents by completing as many copies of this form as necessary, but please note that each set of 5 documents will incur a £10 charge. Additional forms can be supplied on request.

Once you have completed the form  please return  to The Finance Department, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU. (A business reply envelope is enclosed for UK customers.)

You can expect to hear from us within 10 working days of receipt of your initial payment and a representative of this office will be happy to answer any questions you may have during this time

Yours faithfully

Record Copying Department

M. Proctor

[Signature]

Sumner
12/12

(19)

The National Archives
Kew Richmond Surrey TW9 4DU
United Kingdom
Tel +44 (0)20 8876 3444
enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Archives, bringing together
the Public Record Office and the
Historical Manuscripts Commission



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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

(20)

Raj, Secrets, Revolution

The controversial new biography of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
subhasbose.com

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system a
'zero-sum
game'

NATION

Dec 14, 2005

NRIs
can

Netaji missing from crash death register

Wednesday December 14 2005 07:54 IST

KOLKATA: Add one more to the swirl of conspiracy theories around Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's disappearance.

It's now with the Home Ministry as Exhibit Number 304. Written in Japanese, it's a 60-year-old "death register" issued by the local municipality in Taihoku 10 days after the August 17, 1945 aircrash in which Netaji is said to have been killed. The death register does not have Netaji's name. Neither does it mention the name of the pilot or the co-pilot.

This forms the key evidence behind the conclusion of the Justice Manoj Kumar Mukherjee commission—as first reported in *this website's newspaper* on November 13—that Netaji did not die in the plane crash.

"The Commission's report indeed cites this evidence. I cannot comment on whether there is any further scope of inquiry", Mukherjee told *this website's newspaper*.

The evidence he is referring to—he submitted his report last month—contradicts the official

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Indian line and the finding of the previous two commissions, Shah Nawaz Committee (1956) and the Khosla Commission (1972), which concluded that Netaji had died in the plane crash.

The death register is a 25-page list of 273 persons—Japanese, Chinese and British—cremated and buried under the Taihoku municipality from August 17, 1945 to August 27, 1945.

The Mukherjee Commission had asked for death records of that period from the Taipei City Government in January, 2005.

The death register reached the commission after its visit to Taipei and Bangkok on January 26 and 27 this year. Translator Sandeep Kumar Sett's letter to the commission (Exhibit 305) reads: "There is no entry in the name of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose/Chandra Bose, Pilot Takizawa, Co-Pilot Aoyagi and General Shidei in the above documents of cremation".

Another letter which Justice Mukherjee has cited in his report as evidence against the crash theory is one from the CIA, archived at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Maryland.

The letter, which reached the Mukherjee Commission via the MEA on Jan 27, 2005, is on the letterhead of the Department of State and is dated June 28, 1946. It says: "A search of the files in the Intelligence Division reveals that there is no direct evidence that Subhas Chandra Bose was killed in an airplane crash at Taihoko, Formosa, despite the public statement of the Japanese to that effect". This document was informally sent by the Friends of India Society in the US after it was declassified in 1986 but a certified copy reached the

(22)

Newsletter

Commission only in January 2005.

YOUR VERDICT

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govt to grant
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to NRIs?

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Mrs. Shashi Kumar
First Secretary (Political)
Tel: 020-7632-3021
Email: shashi.kumar@hclondon.net
Fax: 020-7632-3210

Urgent (23)
**THE HIGH
COMMISSION OF
INDIA**
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

FAX MESSAGE

No. Lon/Pol/103/17/2002

Number of pages : 2
(including this page)

From: Hicomind London

To: Foreign New Delhi

Shri Tanmaya Lal, Director (EW1) from Shashi Kumar, First Secretary (Pol)

I am enclosing a copy of a letter received from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office on our query concerning the article entitled "British attempted to kill Bose".

I spoke to the National Archives who confirmed that they have the reference numbers HS 7/217 and HS 7/220 with them. I asked them how to have copies of these documents. I was informed that the National Archives would be sending the order form along with the cost of the copies of these documents to be paid to the undersigned in about ten days. On receipt, the documents would be sent to you.

Our earlier inputs of 20th November sent by email were of preliminary nature as FCO has only just replied.

With warm regards,

Shashi Kumar
(Shashi Kumar)

First Secretary(Pol)
December 07, 2005

*Confirmation copy by Secy to Dir(EW1) WEN
New Delhi,*

10-12-2005



06 December 2005

Mrs Shashi Kumar
First Secretary (Political)
The High Commission of India
Fax: 0207-632-3210

Foreign &
Commonwealth

E202
20 King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH
Tel: 0207-008-2383
Fax: 0207-008-3258
E-mail: Andrew.Brand@fco.gov.uk

Dear Mrs Kumar

NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA B

Thank you for your fax of 21 October concerning the BBC article headed "British 'attempted to kill Bose'". Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding but I have only just received an answer from my colleagues in our records section.

They told me that Mr O'Halpin's article cites the SOE war diaries, which are open at The National Archives. The reference numbers are HS 7/217 and HS 7/220. These documents were released in 1999. You can contact the National Archives direct about getting copies of these documents.

I hope this is helpful.

Best regards

Andrew Brand
South Asia Group

 *** TX REPORT ***

(25)

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CONNECTION TEL	800911123010176
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ST. TIME	07/12 17:03
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PGS. SENT	2
RESULT	OK

EC-2005 16:24 FROM SAD, FCO

TO 902076323210

South Asia Group
 Andrew Brand

Andy Brand

Best regards

I hope this is helpful.

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NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA B

Dear M. Kumar

Low/POL/1103/17/2000

May like to see for information pl.

26
7/12
PSID

06 December 2005

Mrs Shashi Kumar
First Secretary (Political)
The High Commission of India
Fax: 0207-632-3210

Foreign &
Commonwealth
E202

20 King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH
Tel: 0207-008-2383
Fax: 0207-008-3258
E-mail: Andrew.Brand@fco.gov.uk

Ministry (Pol)

Thanks.

Pl. inform

MEA -

apparently these
are available. Pl.
also urgently get
a copy as this is a
Special Mention
pl. write letter
8/12

Dear Mr Kumar

NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE

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I hope this is helpful.

Best regards

Andrew Brand
South Asia Group

020 8876 3444
Mina

(PW)

Low/POL/103/17/2000

May like to see for information pl.

(27)

Shuman
7/12
PS/P

06 December 2005

Mrs Shashi Kumar
First Secretary (Political)
The High Commission of India
Fax: 0207-632-3210

Ministry (Ind)

Thanks.

Pl. inform

MEA -

apparently these
are available. Pl.
also urgently get
a copy as this is a
special mention.

Foreign &
Commonwealth

E202

20 King Charles Street

London SW1A 2AH

Tel: 0207-008-2383

Fax: 0207-008-3258

E-mail: Andrew.Brand@fco.gov.uk

Dear Mr Kumar

NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE

PS (PW)

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I hope this is helpful.

Best regards

Andrew Brand
South Asia Group

7/12

Date: Sun, 20 Nov 2005 15:43:20 +0000 (GMT)
From: "smita purushottam" <smitapurushottam@yahoo.com>  View Contact Details
Subject:  Special Mention Netaji
To: "Tanmaya Lall" <direw@mea.gov.in>
CC: "Ajaneesh Kumar" <dsewc@mea.gov.in>

Dear Tanmaya,

Reference your email on the Special Mention regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, which has been inadvertently deleted. However I had saved the attachment which contains the special mention by Shri Dinesh Trivedi, which is reattached, in which he has essentially demanded that *all* the documents relating to Netaji be made public by the British government in order to gain information, this time, on orders allegedly issued by the British Foreign Office in 1941 for the assassination of Netaji.

Our files show that requests for access to British official records on the issue of Netaji's disappearance have been made in the past. More recent records show that the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, set up to investigate Netaji's disappearance, had visited the UK on July 18-August 6, 2001 with the aim of examining declassified British official records related to Netaji and kept at the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library. Certain documents continued however to be classified and the Commission was not given access to them. According to the Records and Historical Department of the FCO these were:

1. A few papers in the files of the Intelligence and Security Agencies. These intelligence records are withheld from release with the approval of the Lord Chancellor,
2. One paper from the IPI (Indian political intelligence organisation) which is retained on grounds of continued political sensitivity.

The Commission had requested that the British authorities be approached to make available these documents. The then DHC met the Head of the South Asian Department of the FCO pursuant to receiving a request from Ministry that the Commission be permitted to examine the British intelligence records withheld from release.

The Foreign Office on 14 December 2001 replied that virtually all the records more than 30 years old were released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld with the approval of the Lord Chancellor. The foreign office conveyed that these are withheld as a matter of principle because the peacetime files of the intelligence and society

agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. They also confirmed that one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on grounds of continuing personal sensitivity. This reply is virtually identical to the memo given to the Commission during their visit by the Records and Historical Department. This position had thus been explained to Justice Mukherjee.

This was taken up again with the British Foreign Office on February 24, 2003 by the High Commission and an identical response was conveyed by FCO dated 22 May 2003. The file also shows that requests pertaining to declassified documents were met by the British authorities.

It is clear that these files will not be declassified and it appears that approaching the Foreign Office would elicit the same reply as the ones received before.

I can fax the letters mentioned above tomorrow if you so wish.

Warm regards

Smita

Smita Purushottam
Minister (Pol)
High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
WC2B 4NA
Ph: 0207 632 3003/3043

**DEMAND FOR MAKING PUBLIC THE RECENT REVELATION ABOUT
THE PLOT TO ASSASSINATE NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE.**

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI (WEST BENGAL) : As per the media reports appeared in several newspapers wherein it was reported that an Irish Prof. of Trinity College, Dublin, had said while delivering the Sisir Bose Lecture that there existed documents at the British National Archives which mentions about a secret plot to assassinate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. As per the Prof. the British Foreign Office had issued an order in March 1941 for assassination of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

As per the Prof. on March 7th, the British Special Operation Executive (BSOE) informed its representatives in Istanbul and Cairo that Bose was traveling from Afghanistan to Germany via Iran, Iraq and Turkey. The SOE were asked to wire what arrangements they could make for his assassination. Fortunately, Netaji did not travel through West Asia as was anticipated. He went via Russia disguised as Orlando Mazzotta and reached Berlin on April 2.

As per the documents available, on June 13th the SOE in Istanbul inquired whether the assassination order still stood. Once the decision was confirmed, London cabled the SOE that the foreign office agreed to liquidation of Bose on Turkish territory.

As per the media report, documents containing this secret plot to kill Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose has been handed over by the Prof. to Netaji Research Bureau Chairperson.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was one of the greatest freedom fighters of India and has contributed immensely in getting India its Independence and we have just celebrated 58th year of our Independence. Since this has been widely reported in the media, I urge upon the Government to pursue the matter with the British Government and make all the available documents public relating to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose especially now that we have an excellent relationship with the British Government. I am sure, this is not a difficult task. (ends)

Archives of Member States' Foreign Ministries and European Union institutions

UNITED KINGDOM

1. Full title of Foreign Ministry and of archives service:

- (a) Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Records and Historical Department
(for documents up to 30 years old and withheld documents)
- (b) The National Archives (for documents over 30 years old)

2. Full address:

- (a) Records and Historical Department
Old Admiralty Building
London SW1A 2PA
United Kingdom
Tel: (44 20) 7008 1118
Fax: (44 20) 7008 1112
- (b) The National Archives
Ruskin Avenue
Kew
Richmond
Surrey TW9 4DU
United Kingdom
Tel: (44 20) 8876 3444
Fax: (44 20) 8878 8905
Website: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

3 Summary of historical background of the archives service, showing its place in the current organisational chart of the MFA

(a) Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)

Diplomatic records in England effectively began in the 13th century under the direction first of the Chancellor and later of the King's Secretary, or Principal Secretary. A second Principal Secretary was appointed in the first half of the 16th century and, in 1640 work was divided between them on a regional basis. The present Foreign and Commonwealth Office originated in 1782 when a Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was appointed. From 1801, successive librarians were responsible both for published books and for the manuscript correspondence of the Foreign Office. The Librarian continued to be responsible for official papers until 1968, when on the merger of the Foreign and Commonwealth Offices, Library and Records Department was formed.

Responsibility for the creation, custody, exploitation and release of FCO records now rests with Records and Historical Department within the Information Directorate:

- **Registry Audit/MINERVA** provides guidance and training on registry procedures, electronic records management and the FCO electronic archive (MINERVA)

- **Records Management** holds the archive of non-current records, provides a retrieval service for FCO staff and organizes the review and release of material to the National Archives at 30 years

- **Open Government** leads on Data Protection and Freedom of Information issues in the FCO, and deals with requests under the Code Of Practice on Access to Government Information

- **Historians** publish the official record of British foreign policy in *Documents on British Policy Overseas* and provide historical advice

- **Treaty Section** arrange the publication of treaties to which the UK is party and the transfer of original treaty documents to the National Archives, and provide an information service (for treaty information see www.fco.gov.uk/treaty)

The Head of Records and Historical Department is Departmental Record Officer for the FCO.

(b) The **National Archives (PRO)**

The National Archives (formerly Public Record Office) houses the national archives of England and subsequent to the Act of Union in 1707 those of the United Kingdom. These comprise records created by the actions of central government and of the courts of law of England and Wales. Its origins go back to an Act of Parliament of 1838. The Chief Executive of The National Archives, the Keeper of Public Records, submits an annual report to the Lord Chancellor, a Minister of the Crown.

4. Physical access:

No public access to records under 30 years held by the **Foreign and Commonwealth Office**. Access to records over 30 years old held by **The National Archives** is by reader's ticket issued on production of documentary proof of identity (passport for non-UK nationals).

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 0900-1700; Tuesday 0930/1000-1900, Thursday 0900-1900,

Closed: Public holidays and annual stock-taking (usually the first week in December). Check The National Archives website for definite dates.

5. Practical facilities:

The National Archives has one reading-room for the consultation of original records (256 seats) and a second for maps and large documents (16 seats and 10 further working surfaces; four microfiche readers and three microfilm readers); one room solely for the study of records in microform (60 microfilm readers and 6 microfiche readers)

6. Reproduction of documents:

Photocopies of documents, 35mm microfilm, electrostatic prints, prints from film, bromide print, scanned images, black and white photographs and colour photographs can be supplied. Official certified copies may also be ordered. Information on the scale of charges for each kind of work and procedures for ordering copies may be obtained from the Record Copy Ordering Section at Kew or from The National Archives website.

7. Access regulations:

Access to UK official records is currently regulated by the Public Records Acts 1958 and 1967 (full text on <http://www.pro.gov.uk/about/foi.htm>) under which records are made available to the public after 30 years. From January 2005 access will be regulated by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (full text on www.hmso.gov.uk)

Documents under 30 years old are held by the **Foreign and Commonwealth Office**; there is no public access. The Code of Practice on Access to Government Information gives a non-statutory right of access to information, subject to certain exemptions. From January 2005 records can be accessed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000: applications should be sent to Records and Historical Department.

Documents over 30 years are, with few exceptions, available for inspection by members of the public in **The National Archives**. Records may be withheld from the public domain for longer than 30 years with the approval of the Lord Chancellor if their release would:

- harm defence, international relations or national security
- cause substantial distress to, or endanger persons or their descendants affected by disclosure
- constitute a breach of good faith by making public information supplied in confidence
- disclose information relating to security and intelligence matters

8. Concise description of the principal record groups and collections:

Records and Historical Department of the **Foreign and Commonwealth Office** holds 23km of non-current records in their archive at Hanslope Park. These are the records created by the political and functional departments of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the UK and (to a lesser extent) those of British diplomatic missions overseas.

Material is selected for permanent preservation and transfer to The National Archives according to criteria set out in a series of Operational Selection Policies (OSP). OSP 13 *Britain's diplomatic relations 1973-1996* sets out the key collection themes in FCO headquarters records; a further OSP on *Records of Britain's overseas representation, 1973-* covering records created by British overseas representatives is under preparation. Full texts of all OSPs are available on The National Archives (PRO) website (www.pro.gov.uk/recordsmanagement)

Diplomatic records and other records of relations with other countries at **The National Archives** include:

- the State Papers Foreign from the 16th century to 1782
 - records of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1968- (Lettercode FCO, 93 series)
 - records of the Foreign Office, 1782-1968 (Lettercode FO, 1100 series)
 - records of the Colonial Office, 1782-1966, including earlier Colonial State Papers beginning in the 16th century (Lettercode CO, 1053 series)
- records of the Dominions Office, 1926-47, Commonwealth Relations Office, 1947-66 and Commonwealth Office, 1966-68 (Lettercode DO, 190 series)

9. Finding aids

The catalogue of The National Archives **holdings of all FCO, FO, CO and DO records can be searched online via The National Archives website. Detailed lists are also available in The National Archives and readers may consult some original registers of correspondence. A card catalogue to FO correspondence 1906-19 and annual indexes to FO correspondence for 1920 to 1951 are also available. The 1920-51 index has been published by Kraus-Thomson Organization.**

10. Reference works and articles

The **Foreign and Commonwealth Office** Historians publish the official record of post-1945 British foreign policy in the series *Documents on British Policy Overseas*. This is the successor to the two previous series, *British Documents on the Origins of the War 1898-1914* and *Documents on British Foreign Policy 1919-39*. Details of publications can be obtained from the FCO Historians, Old Admiralty Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2PA and from the FCO website (www.fco.gov.uk)

The **National Archives** (PRO) has produced:

The Records of the Foreign Office, 1782-1968. 2nd edition, 2002

'Never Complain, Never Explain': Records of the Foreign Office and State Paper Office 1500-c.1960, 1994

The Records of the Colonial and Dominions Office, 1964

The Second World War: a guide to documents in the Public Record Office, revised edition, 1993

High Commission of India
London

(36)

Reference FR placed below where Min(Pol) asked "to examine".

While going through the file on Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, it is revealed that whenever FCO was approached they followed the line (letter dated 22nd May, 2003 to Mr. Vikas Swarup - F/A) "our position remains unchanged as set out in Iain Lindsay's letter of 14th December, 2001 to Mr. Puri (F/B).

We can use the following options: i) write again to the Foreign Office and ask for their comments on this recent revelation about the plot to assassinate Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

ii) Ask the Ministry to give a reply to the Special Mention based on the letter No. Lon/Pol/103/17/00 dated August 26, 2004 sent by DHC (F/D) enclosing a note with enclosures (F/C - Loose Minute of MI 2 regarding the death of Netaji dated 20.1.47 and Statement of Mr. Yoshimi, Medical Captain of the Imperial Japanese Army on the death of Netaji).

Submitted for information please.

Shumar
(Shashi Kumar)
First Secretary (Pol)
October 25, 2005

Minister (Pol.)

DHC

P1. prepare a self
contained note - future -
your note gave no details
of the issue! Answer sent.

FS(P)

20/11 19



Welcome, **smitapurushottam@yahoo.com**
[Sign Out, My Account]

Search
the Web

Search

Mail Home - Help



Mail

Addresses

Calendar

Notepad

What's New - SMS Mail Alerts - Upgrades - Options

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This message is not flagged. [Flag Message - Mark as Unread]

From: "DirEW" <direw@mea.gov.in> View Contact Details

To: "smita.purushottam" <smita.purushottam@hclondon.net>, "smita purushottam" <smitapurushottam@yahoo.com>

Subject: PQ - Special Mention.

Date: Tue, 18 Oct 2005 20:25:06 +0530

Dear Madam,

This is with reference to our fax dated September 9, 2005 requesting inputs for fulfilling a Rajya Sabha Assurance on "Demand for making public the recent revelation about the plot to assassinate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose".

As you would recall, the Special Mention refers to media reports quoting a Professor of Trinity College, Dublin to say that there existed documents at the British National Archives which mention a secret plot to assassinate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The Special Mention (scanned copy attached) urges the Government to pursue the matter with the British Government to make available the relevant documents.

Grateful for urgent inputs from the Mission.

Warm regards,

Tanmaya Lal
Director (Europe-1)
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi

Tel : 2379 4145
Fax: 2301 0176

Attachments

Attachment scanning provided by:

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DEMAND FOR MAKING PUBLIC THE RECENT REVELATION ABOUT THE PLOT TO ASSASSINATE NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI (WEST BENGAL) : As per the media reports appeared in several newspapers wherein it was reported that an Irish Prof. of Trinity College, Dublin, had said while delivering the Sisir Bose Lecture that there existed documents at the British National Archives which mentions about a secret plot to assassinate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. As per the Prof. the British Foreign Office had issued an order in March 1941 for assassination of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

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Satyabrata Pal
Deputy High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE, ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA
Tel: 020-72400158
Fax: 020-74971136

No. Lon/Pdf/103/17/00

August 26, 2004

Dear Shri Ralte,

This is in reply to your letter No.25/4/NGO.Vol.XII of August 18, on the request from the Justice Mukerhjee Commission of Inquiry for more information on the British official paper No.5190.

2. Attached is a copy of a note recorded by Minister, Shri P.M. Meena, together with its enclosures. The documents in the enclosures must certainly already be with the JMCI, but since the officials in the National Archives were good enough to furnish these copies, they are being sent for the information of the Commission.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Satyabrata Pal)

Shri L.D. Ralte,
Director (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

etc



L.D.Ralte
Director (CNV)

D.O. No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.XII

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

August 18, 2004

Dear Sir,

Please refer to my predecessor's letter no. 25/4/NGO-Vol.X, dated January 15, 2004, regarding an Official paper-bearing No.5190 (an extract from a Note of Discussion between Lord Wavell, then Secretary of State and R. Arthur Henderson held on 27 August 1945), a copy of which was obtained by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (JMCI) during its last visit to London.

2. The JMCI had sought to know the result of the inquiry initiated by the Viceroy, as mentioned in the document no. 5190. We have been reminded again about this matter.

4. We would be grateful for Mission's inputs with regard to JMCI's query, to enable us to update the Commission accordingly.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(L.D.Ralte)

Shri Satyabrata Pal,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London

P.S.

Monatons' Diary "has been obtained and handed over to the J.M.C.I. shop



Ruchi Ghanashyam
Director (CNV)

D.O. No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.X

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

January 15, 2004

Dear Sir,

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (JMCI) inquiring into the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has drawn Ministry's attention to the following issues for assistance and follow-up:-

[a] A news item published in the Hindustan Times, Kolkata dated January 05, 2004 (Copy enclosed), which refers to '**secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released by the National Archives in London**'.

[b] An Official paper-bearing No.5190 (Copy enclosed), which is an **extract from a Note of Discussion between Lord Wavell, Secretary of State and R. Arthur Henderson held on 27 August 1945**. This note was obtained by the JMCI during its visit to London.

2. With regard to [a] above, the JMCI have requested for assistance in ascertaining from the National Archives in London as to whether the said files/papers reportedly released contain any material relating to Netaji or the INA.

3. With regard to [b] above, the JMCI have sought to know the result of the inquiry initiated by the Viceroy, as mentioned in the document no. 5190.

4. The JMCI have also reminded us about its earlier pending request for obtaining names, postal addresses, e-mail addresses, facsimile numbers etc. of the National Forensic Service Laboratories (NFSL) in the UK. This information is still awaited. The Mission's last response in the matter (Counsellor (Political)'s letter no. LON/POL/103/17/00 dated June 17, 2003) did not include this information sought by the JMCI.

4. We would appreciate your expeditious reply on all the above issues to enable us to inform the JMCI accordingly.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,
R. Ghanashyam
(Ruchi Ghanashyam)

Shri Satyabrata Pal,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London

Comm. (Pol - I)
DNC (O.R.)

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Monday, January 5, 2004
Hindustan Times, Kolkata

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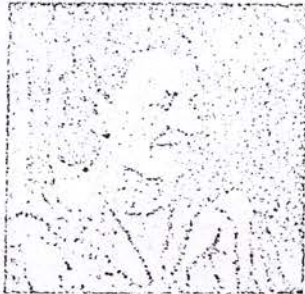
Edwina spilled this one to Nehru

Agencies
London, January 4

A FEW words whispered to Jawaharlal Nehru by Lady Edwina Mountbatten at a Buckingham Palace reception almost cost her husband his career and earned her a scathing rebuke from Winston Churchill.

Secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released at the National Archives in London on Saturday, show the British Prime Minister had cautioned Lord Mountbatten that Edwina's behaviour was doing his career no good in political and social circles. Churchill also led to ban her from an official visit to Turkey amidst she would commit a diplomatic blunder.

The files also revealed that Mountbatten, a cousin of the then and former Viceroy of India, was helpless in the face of his hyperactive and ambitious wife's behaviour. The papers noted that Lord Mountbatten recognised that she "far beyond his control".



Edwina Mountbatten



Jawaharlal Nehru



Winston Churchill

Government concerns came to a head after a Coronation reception at the Palace during which Lady Mountbatten told Nehru, then India's Prime Minister and her close friend, that Britain was responsible for atrocities in Kenya. A "blazing row" ensued in which Lady Mountbatten appealed to James Thomas, the First Lord of the Admiralty, to "save her husband's career".

Thomas told Churchill that he intended to use the row "as a peg for telling her a lot of things about herself. I hope very much we can get the lady to behave herself as

she does so much of her work extremely well".

Churchill had already received a letter from the Queen's private secretary, Sir Alan Lascelles, about an earlier visit by Edwina to India, where she enjoyed a controversial friendship with Nehru and was accused of meddling in Indian affairs. Lascelles wrote: "It seems to me that the time has come when it should be pointed out to Edwina by one of Her Majesty's Ministers that these visits of hers to the Indian capital do not further the general interests of the Commonwealth."

In retaliation, Churchill

sought to ban Lady Mountbatten from an official visit by her husband to the President of Turkey in August 1953 but was forced to back down when Mountbatten assured him that his wife denied making certain remarks about Kenya and had already accepted the Turkish invitation. The Mountbattens ultimately made the trip, which was a resounding success.

Relations between the Mountbattens and the government were strained because of their cavalier interpretation of Lord Mountbatten's role as a fleet commander in the Mediterranean.

EXTRACT FROM NOTE OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN LORD WAVELL, THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND ARTHUR HENDERSON ON 27TH AUGUST.

43

III. Subhas Bose

1945
H. P. ...
...
2/8

The Viceroy said that he had already initiated

an enquiry to ascertain whether it were true that

Subhas Bose had been killed in an air accident.

5190

All the indications
are that it is true
H. P. ...
465

44

hindustantimes.com special



The *Enigma* of Subhas Chandra Bose

(January 23, 1897 –)

Public Appeal

Arise countrymen

Controversy

Point of Contention

The Plot of Death

'Leave Bose alone'

Shah Nawaz Report

G D Khosla Report

Foreign files tell all

Mukherjee panel

Why this probe?

Tip - off

The G B Pant pact

General's revelation

Wireless interception

Myths & Guiles

Rishikesh sighting

The dubious yogi

Fact File

His Vision

His Struggle

His Speeches

His Letters

His Books

Photo Gallery

His Life & Times

Indian National Army

The Air-crash

HT Archive

1931 - 1950

1951 - 1980

1981 - 2000

History

India in World War II

You are here: Home > Netaji Home > Controversy

Mukherjee Commission

It's now or probably never

But the silver lining has appeared in research papers and the declassification of top secret files. The Mukherjee Commission has already examined important witnesses like Bose's private secretary E Bhaskaran, INA's Pritam Singh and Capt Lakshmi Sehgal. One prominent researcher is said to have told the Commission of the existence of secret files in Russia, showing that Netaji was alive in 1946.

The Commission intends to pick up clues from Britain, Japan, Taiwan and Russia. Justice Mukherjee is particularly interested in over 700 recently declassified files in the British Public Records Office pertaining to the Indian National Army

The Commission is currently at work in Britain. Chances are Hugh Toye, a wartime British secret agent, and Peter Archer, a life peer - the men who know too much - may depose before the Commission.

Interestingly, the Commission is also studying claims made by several people, including INA veterans, that Netaji lived in India beyond 1945 in the guise of a holy man. Deposing before the Commission, a renowned surgeon from UP produced pictures to vouch for his claim and said he was willing to produce Netaji's palm imprints for a DNA test.

For the hurdles, the Commission is reportedly having difficulty accessing a number of government files.

The Commission's status report noted some time back that other files/documents "as specifically mentioned... have not been received, most of which are reportedly destroyed".

- Anuj Dhar

Fact of

Post your cor
Read other vi
Q&A with exp

96

imonies

Controversy

Point of Contention
The Plot of Death
'Leave Bose alone'
Shah Nawaz Report
G D Khosla Report
Foreign files tell all
Mukherjee panel
Why this probe?

Fact File

His Vision
His Struggle
His Speeches
His Letters
His Books

Photo Gallery

His Life & Times
Indian National Army
The Air-crash

HT Archive

1931 - 1950
1951 - 1980
1981 - 2000

History

India in World War II
Indian National Army in
East Asia

The government, however, revealed that it had sent S A Ayer, a former Publicity Minister of Azad Hind Government to Tokyo to ascertain Netaji's death. HindustanTimes.com is in possession of a carbon copy of this secret report and it is just a repeat of the official line.

Yet another inquiry was launched by senior police officer Rai Bahadur Bakshi Badrinath in 1946 in tandem with the Intelligence Bureau. Bakshi Badrinath passed away in 1984 in Delhi. According to Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Kuldip Bakshi, his father Bakshi Badri Nath presented his comprehensive report in 3 parts in separate thick volumes. He concluded that Netaji had died.

The Government of India constituted Shahnawaz committee and Khosla Commission in 1956 and 1971 respectively and both said Netaji died in 1945 air crash. In addition to that, Prime Minister Nehru asked MP Surendra Mohan Ghosh to find out whether the sadhu of Shoulmari was actually Netaji.

Claims have also been made regarding separate probes by Mountbatten and General MacArthur of US Army. Americans reached Taiwan within days of the crash.

In 1966, some Indian parliamentarians visited Taipei. On their return, one of the members informed the Khosla Commission that one Taiwanese Government official told them that their probe found no traces of any air crash on that day.

The Mukherjee Commission, the latest one to be set up by the Vajpayee Government, has asked the Government to make available to it the 'alleged report' and a letter send by Taiwanese Premier Chiang-ki-Shek to Pandit Nehru. The Government's response, as in other cases, is still awaited.

In fact, there have been reports that every non-Congress tried to revive probe into Netaji mystery. Former Prime Minister (late) Morarji Desai is said to have even suggested an investigative inquiry as he felt that an open judicial inquiry would not be very useful after so many years.

Both VP Singh and Chandrashekhar governments also toyed with the idea of fresh probes. VP Singh reportedly asked his Foreign Minister I K Gujral to look into the matter. In 1991, former Deputy Minister for External Affairs Digvijay Singh wrote that his ministry had "initiated follow-up action" with regard to investigation into secret documents on Netaji's disappearance.

On all such occasions, the matter fell through, as the governments could not last their full terms.

The latest one-man commission of inquiry headed by Justice Manoj Kumar Mukherjee was constituted by Vajpayee Government in May 1999. The Commission was expected to give its report in six months. Nearly three years later, the Commission is awaiting some Top Secret files on Subhas Bose from the Government of India.

●Public Appeal ●Response ●Hidden Files ●Tip-off ●Aside ●Debates ●Myths & Guilt

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HindustanTimes.com special



Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

(January 23, 1897 – September 16, 1985)

Current Findings :

Select

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April

Editor's Note

Dear surfer,

This is a sequel to last year's public probe that HindustanTimes.com launched to unravel the mystery of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's disappearance in 1945. Though the 2001 probe concluded beyond reasonable doubt that the leader had not died in the plane crash, no answer could be found to surfers' question on his fate beyond August 18, 1945. more...

Subhas Bose Probe: Phase I

These are findings of the first-ever public probe on Internet. Besides indicating that Subhas Bose did not die in the air crash on August 18, 1945, they also throw up pointers to the conspiracies that dogged the great leader during the dying days of World War II.

Findings

Secret and sensitive documents from Indian and foreign intelligence offices throw fierce light on cases relating to Netaji's disappearance.

Reports & Documents

Accounts of witnesses who deposed before the three panels instituted at various stages to unravel the Netaji mystery. .

You are here: Home > Netaji Home >

Never-ending probes into Bose's

By Anuj Dhar

In 1945, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was Empire's most wanted. He was the only Indian to take the British bull by its horns. When Japan surrendered on August 15, 1945, Netaji was on the run from the Allied Forces.

And when the news came that he died in a plane crash, the first reaction was that it was a subterfuge and that it was something that he would have done to continue the freedom struggle.

Within a month of the crash, a team headed by Superintendent of Police Finney reached Southeast Asia to make an on the spot enquiry.

Another independent inquiry was conducted by Lt. Col Figgess of the Counter Intelligence Corps General headquarters, United States Armed Forces.

A third enquiry was carried out by Combined Services Detailed Intelligence Centre. In the course of this enquiry B C Chakravarty interrogated Bose's ADC Colonel Habibur Rahman, main witness to the crash, in Delhi's Red Fort.

All these inquiries concluded that Netaji died as a result of the plane crash in Taipei, Taiwan. However, Mr Chakravarty told Khosla Commission in 1971 that Col Habib was concealing facts during interrogation.

In all these enquiries, a major role was played by W N P Jenkins, the deputy chief of Intelligence Bureau who in turn took information from operatives like Major Hugh Toye. Toye (83) has consistently said that Bose died in 1945.

In 1946, a journalist Hiren Shah made an on the spot inquiry in Taiwan and said Netaji had indeed died there. He went on to write a book *The Gallant End of Netaji*. This was sort of an independent confirmation.

Soon after the independence, demands were raised to probe Netaji's 'death'. In 1951, the government told Parliament that various communications and reports went on to establish that Netaji had indeed died but would not divulge the dates and sources of various "communications and reports".

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Related D

- Bakshi Badrin

102 Neg 15538-67/123

p/a



47

22 May 2003

Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AL

Tel: 020 7008 2945
Fax: 020 7008 3258

Dear Vikas

Thank you for your letter dated 30 April about official records on Subhas Chandra Bose. I am sorry that this was overlooked whilst I was in India.

I have again made enquiries of our Records and Historical Department (RHD) and they confirm that our position remains unchanged as set out in Iain Lindsay's letter of 14 December 2001 to Mr Puri. Virtually all records that are more than 30 years old have been released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld (with the approval of the Lord Chancellor in accordance with the Public Records Acts). These papers do not add to the substantive account of the circumstances of Subhas Chandra Bose's death that is given in the files available at the British Library. They are withheld as a matter of principle, because the peacetime files of the intelligence and security agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. In addition, one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on the grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

I am sorry that I am not able to say anything more helpful on this.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Thomson
Head of India Section
South Asia Department

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High Commission of India
London
(Political Wing)


Reference Dir(CNV)'s letter No. 25/4/NGO-VolX regarding information sought by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry about Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

As discussed with DHC visits were made to British Library, Euston Road and National Archives (Public Record Office), Richmond, Surrey to obtain information on the issues raised in the letter. Research Advisers at both the places were very helpful and we made exhaustive search to locate the relevant information on the electronic, microfilms as well as printed material like old secret files and books. The following papers have been photocopied which have some information about Netaji and INA:

1. Extract from New Scotland Yard Report No. 305 dated 29.8.45 - A
2. Extracts from Note by Military Intelligence dated 14.9.45 - B
3. Loose Minute of MI 2 regarding Death of Netaji dated 20.1.47 - C
4. Statement of Mr. Yoshimi, Medical Captain of the Imperial Japanese Army on the death of Netaji. - D

We could not find any relevant material relating to the Inquiry initiated by the Viceroy as mentioned in the document No. 5190. I have seen the file and there was no paper after the document No. 5190 in the file. Similarly, there was no mention about Netaji or the INA in the secret files from Churchill's private office papers which were available at the National Archives.

For information please.


(P.M. Meena)
Minister (Pol)
5/5/2004

Acting H.C.

Thanks. Pl. send them to MGA.

7/5/04

M(P-7)

20 Dec: '45
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

WITH 104

P. (S)
1757
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SECRET

P. (S) 1115.24

Extract from New Scotland Yard Report No. 305 dated
29th August, 1945

SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

Following the Japanese report published in the London press of 23rd August stating that Subhas Chandra BOSE had died as a result of injuries sustained in an aircraft accident, Indians in the Metropolis have, on the whole, shown themselves to be rather sceptical about its authenticity, but are prepared to believe it until facts prove otherwise. These Indians feel that their country has lost a great patriot and fighter for freedom, but they concede that Bose's death, although untimely, is a blessing in disguise as it will save the Indian people witnessing one of their most ardent patriots being humiliated before a British tribunal.

Among the various individuals who have expressed their feelings on the matter are Chowdry Ali Akbar KHAN, Nripatinath CHOSE, V.S.S.SASTRY, Mohan Lall SHARMA and Dr.C.B.VAKIL.

KHAN claimed that Bose's death was a great loss; he was one of the greatest patriots India had ever produced, and was rightly called India's de Valera. KHAN objected to the British press describing Bose as a quisling, and added that in Indian eyes, the quislings and traitors were those Indians in the British camp.

SASTRY regretted that Bose had found it necessary to join forces with Japanese imperialists. He said that Bose should have remained in India, as did other leaders,

/and

and carried on the struggle against British imperialism.¹²

SHARMA described Bose as the most militant and uncompromising enemy of the British Raj. He expressed his doubts about the truth of the report, but stated that, dead or alive, Bose's contribution to the fight for India's independence would not be forgotten.

VAKIL, when he heard of the report, said he was shocked beyond measure; he, too, considered that it was possible that Bose might be alive, in which case he hoped that Bose, that avowed enemy of British imperialism, would return to India and continue his fight against the hated British Raj.

As soon as GHOSE heard the news, he closed his establishment, the L'Orient Restaurant, 56, St. Giles High Street, W.C.

(51)

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*Lord Pethick-Lawrence to Sir J. Colville**Telegram, L/Mil/7/19590: f 176*

SECRET

INDIA OFFICE, 14 September 1945, 9 am

No. 20364. Your letter dated 5th March No. 38/4.¹

Future officering of the Indian Forces. H.M.G. have now approved in principle, subject to subsequent examination of details, proposals formulated in C.-in-C's memorandum, and I authorise you to place them before your Council. If accepted by Council, as I trust they will be, you will no doubt wish to make an early announcement which should be synchronised with announcement in this country. I should be grateful if you would telegraph text of proposed announcement in good time for examination here. Since A[ir] M[inistry] wish to keep open question of either attachment² or secondment announcement should not commit itself to secondment.

I presume you will in due course forward proposals for detailed conditions of service in amplification of para. 9 of C.in-C's memorandum, or alternatively send a mission to London to discuss such details with the India Office and Service Departments.

¹ Vol. V, No. 297.² 'attachment' deciphered as 'veto'.

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*Note by Military Intelligence (Extract)**L/WS/1/1506: f 44*

SECRET

14 September 1945

No. 10005/3/GSI (b)

SOUTH EAST ASIA COMMAND AND INDIA COMMAND
FORTNIGHTLY SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 3

6. The Japanese report of Bose's death is also a matter of considerable importance not only in the political arena but also to those concerned with security: the continued existence of "Netaji", possibly underground, would undoubtedly maintain the fervour of the many Jifs, military and civilian, who came under what was almost a spell, while the confirmed end of their leader would probably have something of an opposite effect.

7. The report of Bose's death was received in most quarters in India with sympathy and regret expressed by meetings and *hartals*, but scepticism widely persists. Reactions in Bengal particularly are of interest. It is generally believed

(52)

there that the news has been faked with Japanese connivance and that Bose has gone underground to re-appear at the correct psychological moment, which may be provided by the installation of a National Government or by a decision by the existing Government to take a very lenient view of the treachery of Bose and the I.N.A. Political circles in the province have been greatly interested in the recent news item which alleged that Bose had been seen alive in Saigon after the aircraft accident.

8. Where the report has been generally accepted there is a feeling of disappointment that Bose will now be unable to return to his homeland to take his "rightful place"; that he would have been forgiven by Government is taken almost for granted, particularly in view of the delicate political situation. Bose's case is of course inextricably bound up with the future of captured members of the I.N.A. Press comments in relation to both betray readiness to minimize their offence and to emphasise the patriotic though misguided motives and, in respect of the I.N.A., the extremity and violence of enemy pressure, from which these offences are alleged to have sprung. There is, further, in some papers an undercurrent of malicious satisfaction that Bose and his men found opportunity for this misguided activity. Jawaharlal Nehru, as was to be expected, has aired his views freely on the subject, in mischievous terms. While recognizing the "English approach" to this question he stresses the importance of the "Indian approach".

9. Bose's established death would solve the difficult problem of dealing with him but his patriotism and activities, even though from the wrong side of the fence, are likely to hold an important place in the nationalist mind, particularly that of the young Bengali; one politician even declared that his "legend will continue to inspire the people and steel them in their determination to free India and Asia from Imperialism".

II O

Field Marshal Viscount Wavell to Mr Jinnah

L/P&S/13/1265: f 37

No. 295/2/G.

NEW DELHI, 16 September 1945

Dear Mr. Jinnah,

You know from my Private Secretary's letter dated August 26¹ the circumstances in which I have not been able to reply until now to your telegram of August 22² on the situation in Kashmir, for which I thank you.

¹ Acknowledging No. 55 and saying that Lord Wavell would reply on his return from London.
L/P&S/13/1265: f 74.

² No. 55.

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Register No. MD/JAG/FS(A)1223

Minute Sheet No.

10 M.I.2A Secret

LOOSE MINUTE

M.I.2.

Death of SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE



1. Enclosed is a copy of a statement made by Captain YOSHIMIZU Taniyoshi a medical officer of the Japanese Imperial Army concerning the death of SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
2. The statement was received originally from War Crimes Liaison Officer HONG KONG the testator being interned in STANLEY Gaol HONG KONG.
3. The original statement is in the possession of War Crimes Section S.E.A.L.F. *Foreign Office & Law Office*
4. The India Office ~~has~~ had a copy of this report.

Mil. Dept.,
J.A.G.'s Office,
Whitehall 7936 Ext 105
17 Jan 46.

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/GDH

(6815) Wt. 11098/4952 300m. 5/46 C.&Co. 745(8) J.7022

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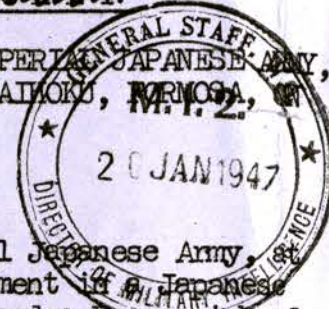
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C O P Y.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~MEMORANDUM~~

Box 273/4

STATEMENT OF YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, CAPTAIN (MEDICAL) OF THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY, WITH REGARD TO THE DEATH OF ONE CHANDRA BOSE, WHO DIED AT TAIHOKU, FORMOSA, 18th DAY OF AUGUST, 1945.



I, TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI, Captain (Medical) of the Imperial Japanese Army, at present at Stanley Gaol, Hong Kong, having observed a statement in a Japanese newspaper, requesting information regarding the death of Chandra Bose, wish of my own free will to place any knowledge I have of this matter at the disposal of the Authorities requiring it. To the best of my ability and memory I hear state the events surrounding the death of Chandra Bose.

In August, 1945, I was the Senior Officer at the NANMON Military Hospital, Taihoku, Formosa. At about 1700 hrs on the 18th day of August, 1945 a truck driven up before the hospital contained several men who had been injured in an aeroplane crash. Two of the men were Indians, and the remainder, about five or six in number were Japanese. One of the Japanese, a Staff Officer with the rank of Lt-Colonel whose name I cannot properly recall, but believe was Ishii -something, informed me that one of the Indians, pointing him out, was Chandra Bose and that I was not to spare myself and must give him the very best of treatment. I immediately gave instructions for some medical orderlies to go and prepare a bed, and for others to carry in the injured man.

When he was laid on the bed, I personally cleaned his injuries with oils and dressed them. He was suffering from extensive burns over the whole of his body, though the most serious were those on his head, chest and thighs. There was very little left on his head in the way of hair or other identification marks. During the first four hours he was semi-conscious, and practically normal, speaking quite a good deal. The first words I remember him speaking were in Japanese, when he made a request for water, which had to be fed to him through a hospital cup with a spout. As most of his speaking was in English, a request for an interpreter was made, and one was sent from the Civil Government Offices named NAKAMURA. He informed me that he had very often interpreted for Chandra Bose and had had many conversations with him. He appeared to have no doubt that the man he was speaking with was Chandra Bose. During the treating of his injuries, I twice inquired of Chandra Bose if he was in any pain, and neither time did he make any answer. After about four hours, I inquired whether there was any statement, will, or such matter he wished to make. He answered "Nothing". After the fourth hour he appeared to be sinking into unconsciousness. He murmured, and muttered in his state of coma, but never regained consciousness. At about 2300 hrs. he died. There was apart from the injuries mentioned above, abrasions on his elbows and knees. There were no fractures.

The other Indian was a Chandra Bose's Adjutant, a Colonel of the Indian National Army, who was suffering from burns to the sides of his head, arms, hands and knees. I do not remember this man's name, but recall that it was a very long one. He was a very tall man, about six feet or over, medium build, and clean shaven.

It was the wish of this Colonel, and also that of the authorities that the remains of Chandra Bose should be transported to Tokyo, and to facilitate this I injected Formalin into the body, and also had the coffin partly filled with lime. The whole was put in a box, and on the 20th August, was taken to Taihoku airport for transporting to Japan, in charge of Warrant Officer NISHI. W.O. Nishi returned later and informed me that the body could for some unknown reason, not be taken to Japan, and was to be sent to the crematorium for cremation. I therefore made out a Death Certificate, stating the causes of death to be extensive burning and shock. The orders for this change of plans came from the Adjutant's Department, Taiwan Army.

On the morning of the 19th August, Colonel Miyata, Staff Officer of General Ando came to the hospital to express mourning on behalf of General Ando and his staff, and as is our custom brought gifts of flowers, fruits and cakes for the deceased. The news of the death of Chandra Bose was kept a secret, and I and my staff were warned not to divulge that we knew who it was that had died. The news was as far as I can remember published in the public press early in the month of September, 1945.

/Of.....

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1	2 cms	The National Archives	ins	1	2
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- 2 -

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STATEMENT OF YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI CONTINUED

of the other passengers of the aircraft I have some direct and some information which was told to me. As far as I could make out, the aircraft, carrying Chandra Bose, his Adjutant and about ten or twelve others (Japanese), took off from the Taihoku Air Port, and after rising to a height of about thirty feet, suddenly burst into flames and crashed to the ground. A Major-General SHIDEI and two others were killed, or unable to escape and were burned with the plane. The others escaped or were rescued, and were brought to Nanmon Hospital. The two pilots, Warrant Officer (later 2/Lt.) AOYAGI and a Sergeant Major., were both burned, but after remaining in my care for about two or three weeks had practically recovered and were transferred to the Hokuto Military Hospital where I later heard they had died, about three weeks after admittance.

The Indian Colonel, Adjutant to Chandra Bose, remained in my care for about 10 days, and was then sent to the Hokuto Military Hospital. The interpreter Nakamura went up there with him, and I have no knowledge of what became of either of them. I do know however that the ashes of Chandra Bose were handed over to the Indian Colonel.

There is nothing more I can remember of this matter, at the present, but will give thought to it, and anything of importance I later remember I will disclose.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

.....
Name in Block Letters. YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI.

CERTIFICATE OF INTERPRETER.

I, HANAGAKI YOSHIO, state that I truly and correctly translated the above statement made by YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, into English, and saw it taken down by Captain A. R. Turner. I later read over the whole of the above statement in the Japanese language, and YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI agreed and then signed the above statement, in the presence of myself and Captain A. R. Turner.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

.....
Name in Block Letters. HANAGAKI YOSHIO.

I, ALFRED RAYMOND TURNER took the above statement of YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, with regard to the death of Chandra Bose, and the Certificate of the Interpreter HANAGAKI YOSHIO at Stanley Gaol, this 19th day of October, 1946, duly witnessing their signatures.

..... Captain.,
A. R. TURNER.

War Crimes Liaison Section (Formosa).

Hong Kong,
19th Oct. 1946.

REM 11/339
340

(56)



Ruchi Ghanashyam
Director (CNV)

D.O. No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.X

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

January 15, 2004

Dear Sir,

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (JMCI) inquiring into the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has drawn Ministry's attention to the following issues for assistance and follow-up:-

[a] A news item published in the Hindustan Times, Kolkata dated January 05, 2004 (Copy enclosed), which refers to **'secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released by the National Archives in London'**.

[b] An Official paper-bearing No.5190 (Copy enclosed), which is an **extract from a Note of Discussion between Lord Wavell, Secretary of State and R. Arthur Henderson held on 27 August 1945.** This note was obtained by the JMCI during its visit to London.

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4. We would appreciate your expeditious reply on all the above issues to enable us to inform the JMCI accordingly.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. Ghanashyam
(Ruchi Ghanashyam)

Shri Satyabrata Pal,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London

Comm. (Pol - I)
Dnc (o.r.)

As filed 5/10/CM
than put up
05-01-04

Monday, January 5, 2004
Hindustan Times, Kolkata

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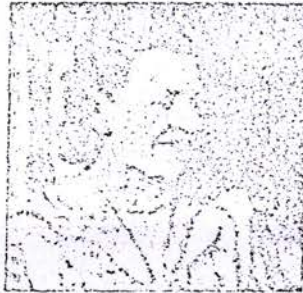
Edwina spilled this one to Nehru

Agencies
London, January 4

A FEW words whispered to Jawaharlal Nehru by Lady Edwina Mountbatten at a Buckingham Palace reception almost cost her husband his career and earned her a searing rebuke from Winston Churchill.

Secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released at the National Archives in London on Saturday, show the British Prime Minister had cautioned Lord Mountbatten that Edwina's "behaviour was doing his career no good in political and naval circles". Churchill also tried to ban her from an official visit to Turkey amid fears she would commit a diplomatic blunder.

The files also revealed that Mountbatten, a cousin of the Queen and former Viceroy of India, was helpless in the face of his hyperactive and ambitious wife's behaviour. The papers noted that Lord Mountbatten recognised that she was "far beyond his control".



Edwina Mountbatten



Jawaharlal Nehru



Winston Churchill

Government concerns came to a head after a Coronation reception at the Palace during which Lady Mountbatten told Nehru, then India's Prime Minister and her close friend, that Britain was responsible for atrocities in Kenya. A "blazing row" ensued in which Lady Mountbatten appealed to James Thomas, the First Lord of the Admiralty, to "save her husband's career".

Thomas told Churchill that he intended to use the row "as a peg for telling her a lot of things about herself. I hope very much we can get the lady to behave herself as

she does so much of her work extremely well".

Churchill had already received a letter from the Queen's private secretary, Sir Alan Lascelles, about an earlier visit by Edwina to India, where she enjoyed a controversial friendship with Nehru and was accused of meddling in Indian affairs. Lascelles wrote: "It seems to me that the time has come when it should be pointed out to Edwina by one of Her Majesty's Ministers that these visits of hers to the Indian capital do not further the general interests of the Commonwealth."

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Relations between the Mountbattens and the government were strained because of their cavalier interpretation of Lord Mountbatten's role as a fleet commander in the Mediterranean.

EXTRACT FROM NOTE OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN LORD WAVELL, THE
SECRETARY OF STATE AND ARTHUR HENDERSON ON 27TH AUGUST.

III. Subhas Bose

The Viceroy said that he had already initiated

an enquiry to ascertain whether it were true that

Subhas Bose had been killed in an air accident.

All the indications
are that it is true

4/5

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89

hindustantimes.com special



The *Enigma* of Subhas Chandra Bose

(January 23, 1897 –)

Public Appeal

Arise countrymen

Controversy

Point of Contention

The Plot of Death

'Leave Bose alone'

Shah Nawaz Report

G D Khosla Report

Foreign files tell all

Mukherjee panel

Why this probe?

Tip - off

The G B Pant pact

General's revelation

Wireless interception

Myths & Guiles

Rishikesh sighting

The dubious yogi

Fact File

His Vision

His Struggle

His Speeches

His Letters

His Books

Photo Gallery

His Life & Times

Indian National Army

The Air-crash

HT Archive

1931 - 1950

1951 - 1980

1981 - 2000

History

India in World War II

You are here: Home > Netaji Home > Controversy

Mukherjee Commission

It's now or probably never

But the silver lining has appeared in research papers and the declassification of top secret files. The Mukherjee Commission has already examined important witnesses like Bose's private secretary E Bhaskaran, INA's Pritam Singh and Capt Lakshmi Sehgal. One prominent researcher is said to have told the Commission of the existence of secret files in Russia, showing that Netaji was alive in 1946.

The Commission intends to pick up clues from Britain, Japan, Taiwan and Russia. Justice Mukherjee is particularly interested in over 700 recently declassified files in the British Public Records Office pertaining to the Indian National Army

The Commission is currently at work in Britain. Chances are Hugh Toye, a wartime British secret agent, and Peter Archer, a life peer - the men who know too much - may depose before the Commission.

Interestingly, the Commission is also studying claims made by several people, including INA veterans, that Netaji lived in India beyond 1945 in the guise of a holy man. Deposing before the Commission, a renowned surgeon from UP produced pictures to vouch for his claim and said he was willing to produce Netaji's palm imprints for a DNA test.

For the hurdles, the Commission is reportedly having difficulty accessing a number of government files.

The Commission's status report noted some time back that other files/documents "as specifically mentioned... have not been received, most of which are reportedly destroyed".

- Anuj Dhar

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Q&A with exp

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HindustanTimes.com special



Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

(January 23, 1897 – September 16, 1945)

Current Findings :

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April

Editor's Note

Dear surfer,

This is a sequel to last year's public probe that HindustanTimes.com launched to unravel the mystery of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's disappearance in 1945. Though the 2001 probe concluded beyond reasonable doubt that the leader had not died in the plane crash, no answer could be found to surfers' question on his fate beyond August 18, 1945. **more...**

Subhas Bose Probe: Phase I

These are findings of the first-ever public probe on Internet. Besides indicating that Subhas Bose did not die in the air crash on August 18, 1945, they also throw up pointers to the conspiracies that dogged the great leader during the dying days of World War II.

Findings

Secret and sensitive documents from Indian and foreign intelligence offices throw fierce light on cases relating to Netaji's disappearance.

Reports & Documents

Accounts of witnesses who deposed before the three panels instituted at various stages to unravel the Netaji mystery. .

You are here: Home > Netaji Home >

Never-ending probes into Bose's

By Anuj Dhar

In 1945, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was Empire's most wanted. He was the only Indian to take the British bull by its horns. When Japan surrendered on August 15, 1945, Netaji was on the run from the Allied Forces.

And when the news came that he died in a plane crash, the first reaction was that it was a subterfuge and that it was something that he would have done to continue the freedom struggle.

Within a month of the crash, a team headed by Superintendent of Police Finney reached Southeast Asia to make an on the spot enquiry.

Another independent inquiry was conducted by Lt. Col Figgess of the Counter Intelligence Corps General headquarters, United States Armed Forces.

A third enquiry was carried out by Combined Services Detailed Intelligence Centre. In the course of this enquiry B C Chakravarty interrogated Bose's ADC Colonel Habibur Rahman, main witness to the crash, in Delhi's Red Fort.

All these inquiries concluded that Netaji died as a result of the plane crash in Taipei, Taiwan. However, Mr Chakravarty told Khosla Commission in 1971 that Col Habib was concealing facts during interrogation.

In all these enquiries, a major role was played by W N P Jenkins, the deputy chief of Intelligence Bureau who in turn took information from operatives like Major Hugh Toye. Toye (83) has consistently said that Bose died in 1945.

In 1946, a journalist Hiren Shah made an on the spot inquiry in Taiwan and said Netaji had indeed died there. He went on to write a book **The Gallant End of Netaji**. This was sort of an independent confirmation.

Soon after the independence, demands were raised to probe Netaji's 'death'. In 1951, the government told Parliament that various communications and reports went on to establish that Netaji had indeed died but would not divulge the dates and sources of various "communications and reports".

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Controversy

Point of Contention
The Plot of Death
'Leave Bose alone'
Shah Nawaz Report
G D Khosla Report
Foreign files tell all
Mukherjee panel
Why this probe?

Fact File

His Vision
His Struggle
His Speeches
His Letters
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Photo Gallery

His Life & Times
Indian National Army
The Air-crash

HT Archive

1931 - 1950
1951 - 1980
1981 - 2000

History

India in World War II
Indian National Army in
East Asia

The government, however, revealed that it had sent S A Ayer, a former Publicity Minister of Azad Hind Government to Tokyo to ascertain Netaji's death. HindustanTimes.com is in possession of a carbon copy of this secret report and it is just a repeat of the official line.

Yet another inquiry was launched by senior police officer Rai Bahadur Bakshi Badrinath in 1946 in tandem with the Intelligence Bureau. Bakshi Badrinath passed away in 1984 in Delhi. According to Air Vice Marshal (Retd) Kuldip Bakshi, his father Bakshi Badri Nath presented his comprehensive report in 3 parts in separate thick volumes. He concluded that Netaji had died.

The Government of India constituted Shahnawaz committee and Khosla Commission in 1956 and 1971 respectively and both said Netaji died in 1945 air crash. In addition to that, Prime Minister Nehru asked MP Surendra Mohan Ghosh to find out whether the sadhu of Shoulmari was actually Netaji.

Claims have also been made regarding separate probes by Mountbatten and General MacArthur of US Army. Americans reached Taiwan within days of the crash.

In 1966, some Indian parliamentarians visited Taipei. On their return, one of the members informed the Khosla Commission that one Taiwanese Government official told them that their probe found no traces of any air crash on that day.

The Mukherjee Commission, the latest one to be set up by the Vajpayee Government, has asked the Government to make available to it the 'alleged report' and a letter sent by Taiwanese Premier Chiang-ki-Shek to Pandit Nehru. The Government's response, as in other cases, is still awaited.

In fact, there have been reports that every non-Congress tried to revive probe into Netaji mystery. Former Prime Minister (late) Morarji Desai is said to have even suggested an investigative inquiry as he felt that an open judicial inquiry would not be very useful after so many years.

Both VP Singh and Chandrashekhar governments also toyed with the idea of fresh probes. VP Singh reportedly asked his Foreign Minister I K Gujral to look into the matter. In 1991, former Deputy Minister for External Affairs Digvijay Singh wrote that his ministry had "initiated follow-up action" with regard to investigation into secret documents on Netaji's disappearance.

On all such occasions, the matter fell through, as the governments could not last their full terms.

The latest one-man commission of inquiry headed by Justice Manoj Kumar Mukherjee was constituted by Vajpayee Government in May 1999. The Commission was expected to give its report in six months. Nearly three years later, the Commission is awaiting some Top Secret files on Subhas Bose from the Government of India.

●Public Appeal ●Response ●Hidden Files ●Tip-off ●Aside ●Debates ●Myths & Guilt

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Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AL

Tel: 020 7008 2945
Fax: 020 7008 3258

22 May 2003

Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

Dear Vikas

Thank you for your letter dated 30 April about official records on Subhas Chandra Bose. I am sorry that this was overlooked whilst I was in India.

I have again made enquiries of our Records and Historical Department (RHD) and they confirm that our position remains unchanged as set out in Iain Lindsay's letter of 14 December 2001 to Mr Puri. Virtually all records that are more than 30 years old have been released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld (with the approval of the Lord Chancellor in accordance with the Public Records Acts). These papers do not add to the substantive account of the circumstances of Subhas Chandra Bose's death that is given in the files available at the British Library. They are withheld as a matter of principle, because the peacetime files of the intelligence and security agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. In addition, one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on the grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

I am sorry that I am not able to say anything more helpful on this.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Thomson
Head of India Section
South Asia Department



M. Meena

Counsellor(Political)

Tel: 020 7836 7369

Fax: 020 7836 6695

E-mail: pmmeena@hcilondon.net

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF

INDIA

INDIA HOUSE

ALDWYCH

LONDON WC2B 4NA

No. Len-101/103/17/2000

3 February, 2004.

Dear Mr. Paver,

As you may be aware that the Government of India have setup Inquiry Commission into the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, has requested the High Commission of India London about the following information.

- a) A news item published in the Hindustan Times English Daily, Kolkatta dated 5.1.04 (copy enclosed), which refers to 'secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released by the National Archives in London'.
- b) An official paper-bearing No. 5190 (copy enclosed), which is an extract from a Note of Discussion between Lord Wavell, Secretary of State and R. Arthur Henderson held on 27.8.45. This note was obtained by the members of commission during their visit to London.

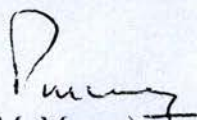
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In addition to above, grateful for names, postal addresses, emails, fax nos. etc. of the National Forensic Service Laboratories (NFSL) in the UK.


I would appreciate early response.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(P.M. Meena)

Mr. James Paver,
South Asian Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
London SW1.


P.M. Meena



Ruchi Ghanashyam
Director (CNV)

D.O. No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.X

सत्यमेव जयते

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

January 15, 2004

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4. We would appreciate your expeditious reply on all the above issues to enable us to inform the JMCI accordingly.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,
R. Ghanashyam
(Ruchi Ghanashyam)

Shri Satyabrata Pal,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London

Comm. (Pol - E)
Dnc (O.R.)

Q. 5104/50/CM
than put up
05-01-04

Monday, January 5, 2004
Hindustan Times, Kolkata

5

Edwina spilled this one to Nehru

Agencies
London, January 4

A FEW words whispered to Jawaharlal Nehru by Lady Edwina Mountbatten at a Buckingham Palace reception almost cost her husband his career and earned her a searing rebuke from Winston Churchill.

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Edwina Mountbatten



Jawaharlal Nehru



Winston Churchill

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an enquiry to ascertain whether it were true that

Subhas Bose had been killed in an air accident.

All the indications
are that it is true

4/5

5190

4/5

67

P M Meena

From: P M Meena [pmmeena@hclondon.net]

Sent: 22 April 2004 15:27

To: 'James.Paver@fco.gov.uk'

Dear Mr. James,

Please refer to my D.O. NO.LON/POL/103/17/2000 DATED 3RD February 2004 regarding forwarding JMCI 's request about information on disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Pl expedite .


Regards.

PMMeena

Minister, HCI London

22/04/2004



M. Meena

Counsellor(Political)

Tel: 020 7836 7369

Fax: 020 7836 6695

E-mail: pmmeena@hclondon.net

103/12/00
68
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF

INDIA

INDIA HOUSE

ALDWYCH

LONDON WC2B 4NA

February 23, 2004

Dear Ruchi,

Please refer to the communication reg. JMCI. As informed you over telephone we had already taken up the matter with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to request them by a letter to expedite the information required by the Commission. FCO was reminded by me on 19.2.04. DHC also raised the issue with Director (FCO) during his meeting on 20.2.04. As and when the information is received the same would be communicated to you.

With regards, *and best wishes.*

Yours sincerely,

Pmmeena

(P.M. Meena)

ole

Smt. Ruchi Ghanshyam,
Director (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Sent by boy



M. Meena

Counsellor(Political)

Tel: 020 7836 7369

Fax: 020 7836 6695

E-mail: pmmeena@hclondon.net

No. Lon/Pol/103/17/2000

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INDIA HOUSE
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LONDON WC2B 4NA

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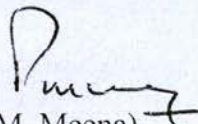
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Yours sincerely,


(P.M. Meena)

Mr. James Paver,
South Asian Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
London SW1.

72

Q. 51/05/CM
than put up
05-01-04

Monday, January 5, 2004
Hindustan Times, Kolkata

70

Edwina spilled this one to Nehru

Agencies
London, January 4

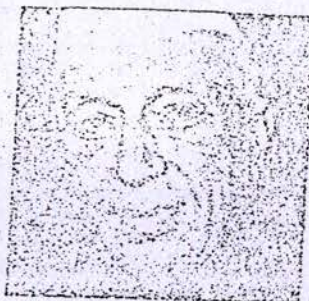
A FEW words whispered to Jawaharlal Nehru by Lady Edwina Mountbatten at a Buckingham Palace reception almost cost her husband his career and earned her a searing rebuke from Winston Churchill.

Secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released at the National Archives in London on Saturday, show the British Prime Minister had cautioned Lord Mountbatten that Edwina's "behaviour was doing his career no good in political and naval circles". Churchill also tried to ban her from an official visit to Turkey amid fears she would commit a diplomatic blunder.

The files also revealed that Mountbatten, a cousin of the Queen and former Viceroy of India, was helpless in the face of his hyperactive and ambitious wife's behaviour. The papers noted that Lord Mountbatten recognised that she was "far beyond his control".



Edwina Mountbatten



Jawaharlal Nehru



Winston Churchill

Government concerns came to a head after a Coronation reception at the Palace during which Lady Mountbatten told Nehru, then India's Prime Minister and her close friend, that Britain was responsible for atrocities in Kenya. A "blazing row" ensued in which Lady Mountbatten appealed to James Thomas, the First Lord of the Admiralty, to "save her husband's career".

Thomas told Churchill that he intended to use the row "as a peg for telling her a lot of things about herself. I hope very much we can get the lady to behave herself as

she does so much of her work extremely well".

Churchill had already received a letter from the Queen's private secretary, Sir Alan Lascelles, about an earlier visit by Edwina to India, where she enjoyed a controversial friendship with Nehru and was accused of meddling in Indian affairs. Lascelles wrote: "It seems to me that the time has come when it should be pointed out to Edwina by one of Her Majesty's Ministers that these visits of hers to the Indian capital do not further the general interests of the Commonwealth."

In retaliation, Churchill

sought to ban Lady Mountbatten from an official visit by her husband to the President of Turkey in August 1953 but was forced to back down when Mountbatten assured him that his wife denied making certain remarks about Kenya and had already accepted the Turkish invitation. The Mountbattens ultimately made the trip, which was a resounding success.

Relations between the Mountbattens and the government were strained because of their cavalier interpretation of Lord Mountbatten's role as a fleet commander in the Mediterranean.

EXTRACT FROM NOTE OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN LORD WAVELL, THE
SECRETARY OF STATE AND SIR ARTHUR HENDERSON ON 27TH AUGUST

III. Subhas Bose

The Viceroy said that he had already initiated

an enquiry to ascertain whether it were true that

Subhas Bose had been killed in an air accident.

All the indications
are that it is true

465

5190

HP. Tr.
Aug 27/8



Ruchi Ghanashyam
Director (CNV)

D.O. No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.X

(72)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

January 15, 2004

Dear Sir,

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (JMCI) inquiring into the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has drawn Ministry's attention to the following issues for assistance and follow-up:-

[a] A news item published in the Hindustan Times, Kolkata dated January 05, 2004 (Copy enclosed), which refers to '**secret files from Churchill's private office papers, released by the National Archives in London**'.

[b] An Official paper-bearing No.5190 (Copy enclosed), which is an **extract from a Note of Discussion between Lord Wavell, Secretary of State and R. Arthur Henderson held on 27 August 1945**. This note was obtained by the JMCI during its visit to London.

2. With regard to [a] above, the JMCI have requested for assistance in ascertaining from the National Archives in London as to whether the said files/papers reportedly released contain any material relating to Netaji or the INA.

3. With regard to [b] above, the JMCI have sought to know the result of the inquiry initiated by the Viceroy, as mentioned in the document no. 5190.

4. The JMCI have also reminded us about its earlier pending request for obtaining names, postal addresses, e-mail addresses, facsimile numbers etc. of the National Forensic Service Laboratories (NFSL) in the UK. This information is still awaited. The Mission's last response in the matter (Counsellor (Political)'s letter no. LON/POL/103/17/00 dated June 17, 2003) did not include this information sought by the JMCI.

4. We would appreciate your expeditious reply on all the above issues to enable us to inform the JMCI accordingly.

with warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. Ghanashyam
(Ruchi Ghanashyam)

Shri Satyabrata Pal,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London

Comm. (Pol - D)
Dnc (O.r)

Asfiloy 50/CM
than put up
05-01-04

Monday, January 5, 2004
Hindustan Times, Kolkata

73

Edwina spilled this one to Nehru

Agencies

London, January 4

A FEW words whispered to Jawaharlal Nehru by Lady Edwina Mountbatten at a Buckingham Palace reception almost cost her husband his career and earned her a searing rebuke from Winston Churchill.

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Jawaharlal Nehru



Winston Churchill

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All the indications
are that it is true
4/65

5190

HPJ. Tr.
Aug 31/5



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Political)
020 7836 7369
Fax:020 7836 6695
E-mail:vikas.swarup@hcilondon.net

भारत का हाई कमीशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

75

No.LON/POL/103/17/00

June 17, 2003

Dear Vijay.


This is in response to your letter NO.25/4/NGO-Vol.IX of April 29, 2003 regarding release of classified documents for the examination of the Justice Mukherjee Commission.

As you are aware, I had written to the FCO urging them to reconsider the decision regarding release of British intelligence records.

I have now received the enclosed letter from the FCO which speaks for itself.

Warm regards.

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Vijay Gokhale,
Joint Secretary (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Encl: as above.

22 May 2003

Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

*Sorry, this
was with
me 9/6*

Comp Ad (vs)

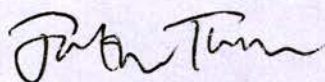
Dear Vikas

Thank you for your letter dated 30 April about official records on Subhas Chandra Bose. I am sorry that this was overlooked whilst I was in India.

I have again made enquiries of our Records and Historical Department (RHD) and they confirm that our position remains unchanged as set out in Iain Lindsay's letter of 14 December 2001 to Mr Puri. Virtually all records that are more than 30 years old have been released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld (with the approval of the Lord Chancellor in accordance with the Public Records Acts). These papers do not add to the substantive account of the circumstances of Subhas Chandra Bose's death that is given in the files available at the British Library. They are withheld as a matter of principle, because the peacetime files of the intelligence and security agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. In addition, one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on the grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

I am sorry that I am not able to say anything more helpful on this.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Thomson
Head of India Section
South Asia Department



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AL

Tel: 020 7008 2945
Fax: 020 7008 3258

for date

4

PA

77



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AL

Tel: 020 7008 2945
Fax: 020 7008 3258

9 June 2003

Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

Dear Mr Swarup

Please find attached copy letter from Jonathan Thomson dated 22 May, which does not appear to have been received at your office.

Yours sincerely

Jill Baldwin
South Asia Department

p/a



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AL

Tel: 020 7008 2945
Fax: 020 7008 3258

22 May 2003

Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

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Yours sincerely

Jonathan Thomson
Head of India Section
South Asia Department



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Political)
Tel: 020 7836 7369
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E-mail: vikas.swarup@hcilondon.net

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LONDON WC2B 4NA

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No.Lon/Pol/103/17/2000

5th June, 2003

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry wishes to access records of communications between General MacArthur and Lord Mountbatten relating to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Our Embassy in Washington had approached the National Archives of USA and Records Administration, Maryland for the above, but was advised that the requisite records may be available in the British Public Record Office.

I would be grateful for your assistance in ascertaining whether these records exist in the British Public Record Office.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Jonathan Thomson
Head, India Section
South Asian Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London

[Handwritten initials]

Copy to Shri Vijay Gokhale, JS(CNV), w.r.t. his letter No.25/4/NGO-Vol.VIII dated April 22, 2003. Also enclosed is information pertaining to the National Forensic Laboratories in the UK.

Warm regards.

[Handwritten signature]
(Vikas Swarup)

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The Forensic Science Service

- ▶ is an executive agency of the UK Home Office.
- ▶ is the market leader in the supply of forensic science services to police forces in England and Wales, as well as being a source of training, consultancy, and scientific support for many overseas and private sector customers, including law enforcement agencies in 60 countries worldwide.
- ▶ is in the vanguard of forensic science technology and has an unrivalled reputation for the integrity, impartiality and accuracy of its findings.
- ▶ employs over 2500 people, including over 1600 trained scientists, many of whom are world authorities in their fields.
- ▶ has seven laboratories throughout the country, each one equipped with the latest technology and accredited under UKAS (NAMAS) and BSI QA 9000 series quality standards.
- ▶ examines over half a million items in around 100,000 cases every year, and attends 1,200 crime scenes, giving expert evidence in court around 2,500 times each year.
- ▶ invests around £3 million in scientific research through its Research & Service Development unit, which is recognised as being at the leading edge of research into forensic science techniques.

Purpose of the Forensic Science Service

The FSS pioneered the use of DNA profiling in forensic science and set up the world's first national criminal intelligence DNA Database - launched in April 1995.

The purpose of the FSS is to serve the administration of justice principally by providing scientific support in the investigation of crime and expert evidence to the courts. It aims to do so with efficiency, effectiveness and economy.



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As part of the Home Office, the FSS was established as an Executive Agency in April 1991. In April 1996, the FSS was merged with the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory - becoming a truly national service. It is by far the largest supplier of forensic science services in the UK.

On April 1, 1999 the FSS was given Trading Fund status, which allows it to retain surplus cash at the end of each financial year and carry it over to the next - to be spent on improving the service to customers.

The FSS is a non-profit making organisation. Charging by the FSS, which began in 1991, was born out of the 1988 Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs so that its capacity could be aligned with the demand for its services.

This has enabled the FSS to develop commercially and offer services to private, public and overseas customers as well as the 43 police forces in England and Wales and other police forces such as the Ministry of Defence Police and British Transport Police as well as the Crown Prosecution Service and HM Customs and Excise

For the past 30 years, it has run a research facility which has been responsible for many significant forensic science breakthroughs and innovations - particularly in the application of DNA technology.

The FSS pioneered the use of DNA profiling in forensic science and set up the world's first national criminal intelligence DNA Database - launched in April 1995.

The Database matches DNA samples from scenes of crime - for example from blood or semen - and matches them with individuals or other crime.

The FSS deals with around 100,000 cases each year. Scientists give evidence in court around 2,510 times and attend around 1,200 crime scenes.

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International Activities



The FSS's international activities are focussed in providing direct support for Central Governments aims and objectives. We work closely with other Government Departments and provide scientific expertise, casework support and consultancy in liaison with;



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- ▶ The Home Office European Integration Unit
- ▶ The Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- ▶ The Department for International Development
- ▶ Specialist units and departments dealing with
- ▶ International terrorism
- ▶ International organised crime, particularly where it has an impact on Organised Crime in the United Kingdom
- ▶ The National Criminal Intelligence Service
- ▶ Interpol
- ▶ HM Customs and Excise
- ▶ British Police Forces investigating crime involving British Nationals abroad

We are actively involved in the European Union funded PHARE Institution Building Twinning programme providing support to Candidate Countries negotiating accession to the European Union. Under this programme we provide long-term advisors and Short Term Experts delivering training and consultancy in a number of Justice and Home Affairs related projects.

Our areas of activity include assistance in developing DNA Databases, Quality Management Systems, strategic development, awareness and technical training.

We have been involved in PHARE projects in Poland, have recently finished a 15-month project in the Czech Republic and are about to deliver a 2-year project in Lithuania.

More details about the United Kingdom's contribution to the PHARE programme can be found on the FCO's website www.fco.gov.uk.

Other countries where we have been active in the last 12 months include Romania, Latvia, Greece, Serbia, Kuwait and Sierra Leone.

The FSS is also an active member of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) and its various Working Group's. ENFSI's role is to promote good practice and co-operation between its 41 members from 27 countries.

Email us: internationalservices@fss.org.uk

Telephone: +44 (0) 121 329 5283
Telephone: +44 (0) 121 329 5286

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Enquiry Form | Contact Numbers | Enquiry Centre

Please note that the Scenesafe email address should ONLY be used for Scenesafe related matters.

General enquiries should be directed to the FSS using the **Enquiries form**. Alternatively, send an email to **webmktg@fss.org.uk**.

Contact numbers for the Forensic Science Service:

Chief Executives/Corporate Office and Birmingham Headquarters
Telephone: +44 (0)121 607 6800
Facsimile: +44 (0)121 622 5889

Chepstow Forensic Science Laboratory
Telephone: +44 (0)1291 637100
Facsimile: +44 (0)1291 629482

Chorley Forensic Science Laboratory
Telephone: +44 (0)1257 224300
Facsimile: +44 (0)1257 274752

DNA Helpline
Telephone: +44 (0)121 606 2950

Huntingdon Forensic Science Laboratory
Telephone: +44 (0)1480 825000
Facsimile: +44 (0)1480 450079

London Forensic Science Laboratory
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7230 6700
Facsimile: +44 (0)20 7230 6253

Scenesafe® Unit
Telephone: +44 (0)1257 224485
Facsimile: +44 (0)1257 234866
Email: Scenesafe® Unit (scenesafe@fss.org.uk)

Wetherby Forensic Science Laboratory
Telephone: +44 (0)1937 548100
Facsimile: +44 (0)1937 587683

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Site produced and maintained in-house by the FSS.



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Senior management structure

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Chief Executive

Dr. Dave Werrett

Dave became Chief Executive in October 2001 - and lists his priorities as sharpening the focus on customer needs and understanding, improving timeliness of work and establishing an innovative programme of research focusing on crime and criminality.

Chief Scientist

Dr. Bob Bramley - rkb@fss.org.uk

The Chief Scientist has a non executive role in the FSS. He provides independent advice on professional standards and related matters, and assurance to the chief executive that the quality of casework is under control.

Customer Relations Director

Mr. Phil Jones - pj02@fss.org.uk

Phil Jones' role is to lead the customer relations team in working with the customer and FSS operations to provide a better service to customers.

Chief Operating Officer Director

Dr. Mike Loveland - mrl@fss.org.uk

Overarches the areas of service delivery, customer relations and human resources (HR).

Business Development Director / Deputy Chief Executive

Mr. Trevor Howitt - thh@fss.org.uk

"My primary objective is to ensure that the FSS undertakes those projects, initiatives and developments that are required to best equip the FSS to meet customers' changing needs over the next five years."

Finance Director

Mr. Rod Anthony - rja@fss.org.uk

Rod looks after finance, procurement, legal and estates.

Service Delivery Director

Dr. Peter Twitchett - pjt@fss.org.uk

"My role is to ensure the delivery of the service our customers need, alongside our success as a business. This means driving timeliness and consistency and ensuring that we make best use of well trained and motivated staff."

Information Systems Adviser

Mr. Colin Bradley - cbr@fss.org.uk

"My role is to assist the executive board and the senior management in the business to deliver the key components of the information systems strategy in support of our Corporate Change Programme.

Communications Director

Mr. Alan Matthews - amt02@fss.org.uk

"There are two main strands of our work which reflect the two way process of communication itself. Firstly, to listen to our customers and ensure that the FSS quickly identifies any developing customer and stakeholder requirements. Our second focus will be to communicate effectively."

85

Corporate Change Programme Director

Mrs. Becky Sparkes - rls@fss.org.uk

"I am responsible for ensuring that the bulk of our investment activity supports our business strategy and attains the goals set out in the corporate and business plan."

Planning Unit Director

Miss Alison Cobban - ajc@fss.org.uk

Alison heads up the new planning unit. The work of the unit will be to ensure that the corporate and business plan is continually updated, keeping the planning process continuous.

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विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

(86)

Vijay Gokhale
Joint Secretary(CNV)

D.O.No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VIII

Dated April 22, 2003

Dear Vikas,

This is regarding documents relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. As desired by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry, our Mission in Washington had approached the National Archives of USA and Records Administration, Maryland for access to records of **communication between General Mac Arthur and Lord Mountbatten relating to Netaji**. The National Archives of USA have now reverted suggesting that the requisite records may be available in the British Public Record Office. I would, therefore, request you to check with the Public Record Office about the existence of the aforesaid documents.

The Commission has also enquired about the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, fax numbers, etc., of the National Forensic Laboratories in the UK. The requisite information may be sent to us.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Gokhale

(Vijay Gokhale)

To

Shri Vikas Swarup,
Counsellor(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London

9/5/03
up
SS/PA/1

For dictation
up
PA



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Political)
Tel: 020 7836 7369
Fax: 020 7836 6695
E-mail: vikas.swarup@hclondon.net

भारत का हाई कमीशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
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ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

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No.LON/POL/103 /17/00

April 30, 2003

Please see the enclosed letter which I sent to Peter Holland on February 24.
Can I request you for an urgent response to the request from the Justice Mukherjee
Commission of Inquiry ?


Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Jonathan Thomson
Head, India Section
South Asian Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON

Copy to Shri Vijay Gokhale, JS(CNV), w.r.t. his letter No.25/4/NGO-Vol.IX dated April
29, 2003.

Best wishes.


(Vikas Swarup)



Vikas Swarup

Counsellor(Political)

Tel: 020 7836 7369

Fax: 020 7836 6695

E-mail: vikas.swarup@hcilondon.net

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

88

Lon/Pol/103/17/2000

February 24, 2003

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I had written to Jonathan on November 22 regarding some British intelligence records sought by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry which is enquiring into the circumstances of the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

As I have received no reply from FCO and we are getting reminders from the Inquiry Commission, I would be grateful for your personal intervention in expediting a reply.

Yours sincerely,


Sd/-

(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Peter Holland
Head, India Section
South Asian Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON

Copy to Shri Vijay Gokhale, JS(CNV), wrt to his DO No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. VIII dated January 31, 2003.

With warm regards,


(Vikas Swarup)



MOST IMMEDIATE

(89)

Vijay Gokhale
Joint Secretary (CNV)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol. IX

April 28, 2003

29

Dear Vikas,

Please refer to my letter No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. VIII dated October 29, 2002 and reminder dated January 31, 2003 regarding release of classified documents for the examination of the Justice Mukherjee Commission. Your No.LON/POL/103/17/2000 dated 22.11.2002 refers. The Commission has reminded us to intimate the outcome of our efforts in this regard.

2. We had requested you to take up the matter with the British authorities once again in pursuance of an assurance given by the EAM to Justice Mukherjee that this Ministry will give all possible assistance to facilitate the inquiry of the Justice Mukherjee Commission. I would be grateful if you could let me know at a very early date the present status of your request to the British authorities to the release of these documents.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Gokhale

(Vijay Gokhale)

✓
Shri Vikash Swarup,
Counsellor (Pol.),
High Commission of India,
London

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विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

MOST IMMEDIATE

Vijay Gokhale
Joint Secretary (CNV)

103/17/00

90

No.25/4/NGO-Vol. IX

April 28, 2003

29

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Vijay Gokhale

(Vijay Gokhale)

Shri Vikash Swarup,
Counsellor (Pol.),
High Commission of India,
London

Disc, min, pol, 103/17/00

C (P)

24/4



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

MOST IMMEDIATE

(91)

Vijay Gokhale
Joint Secretary (CNV)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol. IX

April 28, 2003
29

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Respectfully,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

(Vijay Gokhale)

Shri Vikash Swarup,
Counsellor (Pol.),
High Commission of India,
London

Doc. Min. Pol. (Pol.)

Per paper M

Placed below fl
20/4
(P-5)



Vikas Swarup

Counsellor(Political)

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THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE

ALDWYCH

LONDON WC2B 4NA

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Lon/Pol/103/17/2000

February 24, 2003

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I had written to Jonathan on November 22 regarding some British intelligence records sought by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry which is enquiring into the circumstances of the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

As I have received no reply from FCO and we are getting reminders from the Inquiry Commission, I would be grateful for your personal intervention in expediting a reply.

Yours sincerely,


Sd/-

(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Peter Holland
Head, India Section
South Asian Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON

Copy to Shri Vijay Gokhale, JS(CNV), wrt to his DO No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. VIII dated January 31, 2003.

With warm regards,


(Vikas Swarup)

OK



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

93

Vijay Gokhale
Joint Secretary(CNV)

D.O.No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VIII

January 31, 2003

Dear *Vikas,*

Please refer to your endorsement No. LON/POL/103/17/2000 dated 27.11.2002 regarding release of classified documents for the examination of the Justice Mukherjee Commission.

I would be grateful to be informed of any developments in the case. This is required to be communicated to the Commission.

Regards

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Gokhale

(Vijay Gokhale)

Shri Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)
High Commission of India
London

over paper M

up

for

File placed below for
2/2



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Political)
Tel: 020 7836 7369
Fax: 020 7836 6695
E-mail: vswarup@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

94

No. LON/POL/103/17/2000

22 November 2002

As you are aware, the Government of India have set up a Commission of Inquiry headed by Hon'ble Justice M.K. Mukherjee to enquire into the circumstances of the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. During the visit of the Commission to the UK in July 2001, the FCO had handed over a note to Justice Mukherjee which revealed that there are some papers in the British records which have not yet been released.

Our former Deputy High Commissioner had met the former Head of the South Asian Department on October 11, 2001 and requested that the Commission be permitted to examine British intelligence records withheld from release. In response, we had received the enclosed letter from Iain dated December 14, 2001.

Notwithstanding the position outlined by Iain, I have been directed to request you once again to permit the Commission of Inquiry to examine the records.

I would be grateful if you could take up the matter once again with the Records and Historical Department (RHC).

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Jonathan Thomson
South Asian Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON

✓ Copy to Shri Vijay Gokhale, JS(CNV), Ministry of External Affairs wrt DO No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VIII dated October 29, 2002.

With warm regards.

(Vikas Swarup)

o/c



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

95

14 December 2001

H S Puri
Deputy High Commission
High Commission of India
Indian House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

WH207
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Tel: 020 7270 2389
Fax: 020 7270 3258

Dear Hardeep,

During a meeting with Stephen Evans in September you handed over a note regarding official records on Subhas Chandra Bose. I am sorry for the delay in replying, however the aftermath of the events of 11 September caused us to lose sight of your original enquiry.

I understand from our Records and Historical Department (RHC) that our position on this issue remains as set out in the note of February 2000. Virtually all records that are more than 30 years old have been released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld (with the approval of the Lord Chancellor in accordance with the Public Records Acts). These papers do not add to the substantive account of the circumstances of Subhas Chandra Bose's death that is given in the files available at the British Library. They are withheld as a matter of principle, because the peacetime files of the intelligence and security agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. In addition, one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on the grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

Richard Bevins, RHD, told me that this position was explained to Justice Mukherjee (who is leading the Indian Government enquiry) and Vikas Swarup when they called on Records and Historical Department in July.

I am sorry if this adds little to what you already know.

Yours ever,
Iain

Iain Lindsay
South Asian Department



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

96

Vijay Gokhale
Joint Secretary(CNV)

D.O.No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VIII

Dated October 29, 2002

Dear *Vikas*,

This is regarding the release of classified documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which have been requisitioned by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

As you are aware, during the visit of the Commission to the UK in July, 2001, the FCO had handed over a note to Justice Mukherjee which revealed that there are some papers in the British Records which have not yet been released. In this connection, I would like to draw your attention to your fax message of 18.12.2001 forwarding the reply of 14.12.2001 of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office on this issue. We had forwarded the FCO's reply to the Commission.

During his visit to the UK, Justice Mukherjee had personally requested Lord Peter Archer to take up the matter of release of the documents with the Lord Chancellor with whose orders the said documents have been withheld. Lord Archer has informed the Commission that the Lord Chancellor had not agreed to the release of the documents. He has, however, advised that it would be more appropriate to take up the issue through diplomatic channels. This matter was also discussed by Justice Mukherjee during his recent meeting with EAM.

We would, therefore, request you to take up the matter once again with the British authorities at the appropriate level to seek the release of the documents for the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Gokhale
(Vijay Gokhale)

14/11
Over paper pl -

up
13/11

pw

To

Shri Vikas Swarup,
Counsellor(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

97

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

January 11, 2002

I had received a letter from Shri H.D. Singh, Deputy Director of Archives, National Archives, regarding permission from Her Majesty's Stationery Office for acquisition of a file required by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

I had written to Her Majesty's Stationery office and I am enclosing a copy of the reply received from them for your information and record.

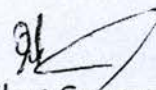
Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Vikas Swarup)

Smt. Narender Chauhan
Director(CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

Copy to Shri H.D Singh, Deputy Director of Archives, National Archives,
Janpath, New Delhi-1.

lyad - 
(Vikas Swarup)



**CABINET
OFFICE**

Her Majesty's Stationery Office

St Clements House • 2-16 Colegate • Norwich NR3 1BQ

TELEPHONE: 01603 723010 • FAX: 01603 723000 • E-MAIL: margaret.ferre@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

Vikas Swarup
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

DATE • 07 January 2002

OUR REFERENCE • Misc/mf

YOUR REFERENCE •
No.LON/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Counsellor

File MB1/K148A

Thank you for your letter dated 28 December.

I can confirm that there are no objections to you reproducing the Crown copyright element of the above file, which forms part of the Mountbatten Papers held at the University of Southampton, for the Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the circumstances of the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

You may be interested to know that I have replied to a similar request from Dr Baqar, Deputy Director of Archives at the National Archive, Government of India, Janpath, New Delhi.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Ferre
Licensing Manager

*See pages 14
of 101*

PO





Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

99

No. Lon/22/103/17/00

December 28, 2001

Dear Sirs,

The Government of India have set up a Commission of Inquiry headed by Hon'ble Justice M.K. Mukherjee to enquire into the circumstances of the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Justice Mukherjee had personally visited the Broadlands Archives, Hartley Library, University of Southampton in July 2001 to examine files which could be relevant to the terms of reference of the Commission

The Commission has found file number MB1/K 148/A relating to the Mountbatten papers useful and would like to acquire it. The trustees of the Broadlands Archives have given their permission for this work to proceed in so far as they own the copyright. A portion of the material is, however, Crown Copyright. They have advised the Commission to pursue this matter directly with HMG's Stationery Office.

I am writing to request permission for the Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to acquire file number MB1/K 148/A of the Mountbatten papers. A copy of the letter from the Archivist of the Hartley Library is enclosed.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
(Vikas Swarup)

Her Majesty's Stationery Office
Copyright Unit,
St. Clement's House,
2-16 Colegate, NORWICH NR 3 1BQ

Copy to Shri H.D Singh, Deputy Director of Archives, National Archives,
Janpath, New Delhi-1 w.r.t D.O letter No. 9-2(5)/2001-P.A. dated 21.11.01.

Regard.

(Vikas Swarup)

तार : राष्ट्रीय अभिलेख
Grams : ARCHEION



सत्यमेव जयते

राजनयिक बिकाय
BY DIPLOMATIC BAG

H.D. Singh
Deputy Director of Archives
Tele. No. - 3389027
Fax No. - 3384127

Through Diplomatic Bag

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार

भारत सरकार

जनपथ, नई दिल्ली-११०००१

NATIONAL ARCHIVES,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
JANPATH NEW DELHI-110001

Dated the 21 NOV 2001

D.O. No. 9-2(5)/2001-P.A.

Dear Shri Kalra,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of letter received from Dr. C.M. Woolgar, Archivist and Head of Special Collections, Hartley Library, Southampton University, U.K. in connection with the seeking permission from Her Majesty's Stationery Office: Copyright Unit, St. Clement's House, Norwich, U.K. for acquisition of file No. MB1/K 148/A, Mountbatten papers from Hartley Library, U.K. a copy of this file is urgently required by Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry appointed to enquire the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Hon'ble Justice M.K. Mukherjee has personally visited Hartley Library during his visit to London in July 2001 and examined the content of the file which were found very relevant to the terms of reference to the said Commission. National Archives of India is also pursuing the case with Her Majesty's Stationery Office, copy of the letter is also enclosed for your kind information.

I would therefore like to request you to kindly pursue the matter to Her Majesty's Stationery Office so that the necessary clearance could be obtained without further delay.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(H. D. Singh)

Shri R.K. Kalra,
First Secretary (Protocol),
High Commission of India,
London,
C/o Ministry of External Affairs
(Diplomatic Bag Section)
South Block,
New Delhi.

ADHC may like
to see and pass it
on to Pol. Section.

18/12/01

ADHC
re. re. 18/12/01
Com (Pol) / 18/12/01
7m dict
4
PA



S.M.R. Baqar
Deputy Director of Archives
National Archives of India
Janpath
New Delhi 110001

5 November 2001

Your ref: D.O.: No. 9-2(5)/2001-PA

Dear Dr Baqar

Thank you for your letter of 27 September.

I have pleasure in enclosing an estimate for the microfilming of file MB1/K148A from the Mountbatten Papers, which form part of MS 61 in this Library.

The trustees of the Broadlands Archives have given their permission for this work to proceed insofar as they own the copyright. A proportion of the material is, however, Crown Copyright, and you should contact Her Majesty's Stationery Office: Copyright Unit, St Clement's House, 2-16 Colegate, Norwich NR3 1BQ, to cover formal permission for the use of this material.

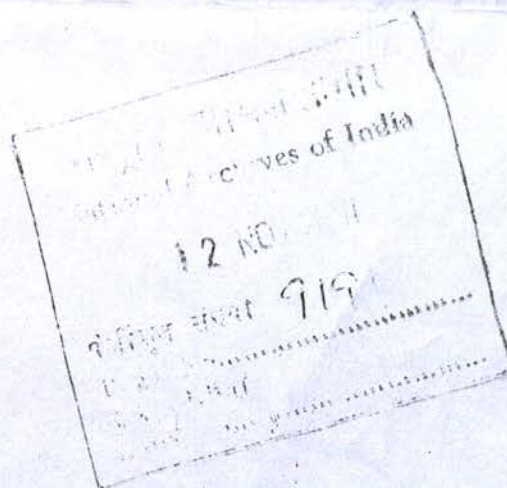
Yours sincerely

Dr C.M. Woolgar
Archivist and Head of Special Collections

Tel: 023 8059 2721/3724

Fax: 023 8059 5451

E-mail: C.M.Woolgar@soton.ac.uk



103/17/00



102

Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

14 December 2001

H S Puri
Deputy High Commission
High Commission of India
Indian House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

*Pl. spoke.
Letter to MSA
and to the Justice
Department
Buckley Commission?*

WH207
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Tel: 020 7270 2389
Fax: 020 7270 3258

Cons. Dept. 24/12

*Action taken File
Two*

Dear Hardeep,

During a meeting with Stephen Evans in September you handed over a note regarding official records on Subhas Chandra Bose. I am sorry for the delay in replying, however the aftermath of the events of 11 September caused us to lose sight of your original enquiry.

I understand from our Records and Historical Department (RHC) that our position on this issue remains as set out in the note of February 2000. Virtually all records that are more than 30 years old have been released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld (with the approval of the Lord Chancellor in accordance with the Public Records Acts). These papers do not add to the substantive account of the circumstances of Subhas Chandra Bose's death that is given in the files available at the British Library. They are withheld as a matter of principle, because the peacetime files of the intelligence and security agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. In addition, one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on the grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

Richard Bevins, RHD, told me that this position was explained to Justice Mukherjee (who is leading the Indian Government enquiry) and Vikas Swarup when they called on Records and Historical Department in July.

I am sorry if this adds little to what you already know.

*Yours ever,
Iain*

Iain Lindsay
South Asian Department

*** TX REPORT ***

103/17/00

103

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	2590	
CONNECTION TEL		0091113010889
CONNECTION ID		
ST. TIME	18/12 15:33	
USAGE T	00'39	
PGS. SENT	2	
RESULT	OK	



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
LONDON
FAX MESSAGE

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

Number of pages : 2
(including this page)

To: Foreign New Delhi

Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV) from Counsellor(Pol)

Further to my fax of December 14 regarding classified British files sought by the Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, we have received a reply from the Acting Head of the South Asian Department in the FCO stating the position with respect to these files.

I am enclosing a copy of the same for your information.

Vikas Swarup
(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)
18.12.01

20/12/01

104



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

LONDON

FAX MESSAGE

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CRASH

CRASH

Number of pages : **1**
(including this page)

To: Foreign New Delhi

Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV) from Counsellor(Pol)

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Vikas Swarup

(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)

18.12.01



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

WH207
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Tel: 020 7270 2389
Fax: 020 7270 3258

14 December 2001

H S Puri
Deputy High Commission
High Commission of India
Indian House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

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I am sorry if this adds little to what you already know.

*Yours ever,
Iain*

Iain Lindsay
South Asian Department

TOTAL P.02

106



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

LONDON

FAX MESSAGE

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

Number of pages : 1
(including this page)

To: Foreign New Delhi

Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV) from Counsellor(Pol)

Your fax of December 13 regarding Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. I had informed Director(CNV) of DHC's request to the Head of the South Asian Department that the Commission of Inquiry be permitted to examine British intelligence records withheld from release. My letter No. Lon/Pol/103/17/00 of October 16 refers.

I have reminded the FCO again. They have promised to revert before December 19.

Yours,

(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)
14.12.01

For info

ADHC

1
faced -

Pl. pr. on Tuesday 18/12. I will speak to him.
Wait from FCO, I will speak to him.

File is placed below pl.
14/12
18/12

Acting DHC

(107)

FAX MESSAGE**MOST IMMEDIATE**

To: Shri P. V. Rao, DHC
High Commission of India,
London

From: Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV)

Pages: 1

Date 13.12.2001

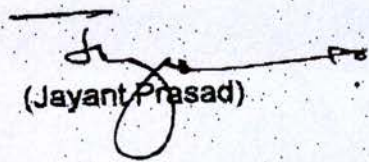
Return Fax to: Phone 379-2070

Subject: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

DHO from JS(AMS & CNV)

We had written to you on 7th September, concerning certain classified records lying with the British Intelligence agencies on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. In your response of 16th October, you had mentioned about your meeting with Mr. Stephen Evans, Head of the South Asian Department in the FCO and that he had promised to revert in the matter.

I am required to present evidence on behalf of the Ministry before the Justice Mukherjee Commission on 19th December forenoon on the availability of the documentation requested. Grateful indicate the latest position in the matter. We need specific details of the efforts made by the Mission and to make thereof, otherwise there may be adverse strictures against the Ministry by Justice Mukherjee.


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P. V. Rao Swamy.
P. V. Rao Swamy.

4.



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

WH207
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Tel: 020 7270 2389
Fax: 020 7270 3258

14 December 2001

H S Puri
Deputy High Commission
High Commission of India
Indian House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

Dear Hardeep,

During a meeting with Stephen Evans in September you handed over a note regarding official records on Subhas Chandra Bose. I am sorry for the delay in replying, however the aftermath of the events of 11 September caused us to lose sight of your original enquiry.

I understand from our Records and Historical Department (RHC) that our position on this issue remains as set out in the note of February 2000. Virtually all records that are more than 30 years old have been released to the Public Record Office or the British Library. A few relevant papers from the files of the intelligence and security agencies are withheld (with the approval of the Lord Chancellor in accordance with the Public Records Acts). These papers do not add to the substantive account of the circumstances of Subhas Chandra Bose's death that is given in the files available at the British Library. They are withheld as a matter of principle, because the peacetime files of the intelligence and security agencies are not released, rather than because of their particular content. In addition, one paper from the files available at the British Library is withheld on the grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

Richard Bevins, RHD, told me that this position was explained to Justice Mukherjee (who is leading the Indian Government enquiry) and Vikas Swarup when they called on Records and Historical Department in July.

I am sorry if this adds little to what you already know.

Yours ever,
Iain

Iain Lindsay
South Asian Department

Forwarded to JS (RMS) & CNV -

File
BW



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)

भारत का हाई कमीशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

109

No. LON/Pol/103/17/00

December 12, 2001

Dear Sir,

Lord Archer of Sandwell QC, whom you had met in London, has asked me send you the enclosed sealed cover.

With warm regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Justice M.K Mukherjee,
Chairman,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
B Block, 3rd floor
11/A Mirza Galib Street
Kolkata 700 087

O/C

From: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Archer of Sandwell, Q.C.

Tel & Fax: 01784 483136



House of Lords
London SW1A 0PW

Highcroft,
Hill View Road,
Wraysbury,
Staines,
Middlesex,
TW19 5EQ

110

Mr Navdeep Suri
High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London WC2B 4NA

8th December 2001

Mr. Suri.

After I met Mr Justice Mukherjee, I wrote to the Lord Chancellor, and I have now heard from him in reply.

I do not seem to have Mr Justice Mukherjee's address, and so I would be most grateful if you would pass to him the enclosed letter.

Yours sincerely,
[Signature]



103/17/80

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Narinder Chauhan
Director(CNV)

D.O. No.25/4/NGO – Vol.VI

Dated October 17, 2001

Dear *Vikas*,

Please refer to my D.O. of even number dated 7th September, 2001 regarding documents relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose sought by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

2. Since the Commission has reminded us in the matter, I would be grateful if your response is expedited. The response should highlight the efforts made till date by the Mission to obtain the desired documents and the results thereof.

with best wishes, Yours sincerely,

N. Chauhan
(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)

Shri Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London

*I have replied,
After 12/12
Pw*

103/17/00

LIST OF COUNTRY HOUSES REVERSED

112

- 1) Hartley Library 02380 59-2180
University of Southampton
(University of Southampton Library
is called Hartley Library) Univ Road Mon - Fri - 9-6 p.m.
Highfield -
- 2) Churchill Archives 01223 33-6087
Cambridge University
- 3) Churchill College 01223 33-6000
(There is no Cambridge University
College in Oxford)
- 4) Department of Western Manuscripts 020 7412 7513
British Library
(for Attlee papers)
- 5) Bodleian Library, Oxford 01865 27-7000
- 6) Broadland Archives 02380 59-2721
University of Southampton

all file in Netaji Hi

lp
pw

(2) 3
- 10
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9-6 'o'clock.

Sab. 9=

Sn.



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

113

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

October 16, 2001

Dear Narinder,

Please refer to your D.O No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI dated September 7, 2001.

Deputy High Commissioner met Mr. Stephen Evans, Head of the South Asian Department in the FCO on October 11, 2001 and requested that the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry be permitted to examine British intelligence records withheld from release. Mr. Evans promised to revert after consulting officials in the FCO's Historical and Records Division. He did say, however, that it is not normal practice to permit access to classified intelligence records.

Warm regards.

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Smt. Narinder Chauhan
Director(CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

114

Narinder Chauhan
Director(CNV)

D.O. No.25/4/NGO – Vol.VI

Dated September 7, 2001

Dear

Vikas,

As you are aware, the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry investigating the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had visited London during July this year to study various records relevant to the points of inquiry. In the course of their visit, they came to learn that certain documents relating to Netaji are still classified and would remain so till 2021. At the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London, a write-up on "British Records on Subhas Chandra Bose" which was handed over to the Commission indicates that some records have still not been released. A copy of this write up is enclosed for your ready reference.

The Commission now desires that appropriate authorities in UK may be approached to make available all these documents to enable their examination by the Commission.

I would be grateful if necessary action as desired by the Commission is taken by the Mission and the results communicated to us at the earliest.

with best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

N. Chauhan
(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)

Shri Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)
High Commission of India,
London

Encl: as above

Recd
Foreign Commonwealth Office
19/2/2000

Foreign Commonwealth Office

115

BRITISH RECORDS ON SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

1. Virtually all British records relating to Subhas Chandra Bose, which are more than 30 years old, have been released at the Public Record Office and at the British Library.

2. Public Record Office: See attached list for 1945-47.

3. British Library: See attached note. This is a collection of 1913-1947 files of the Indian Political Intelligence organisation (IPI) in the series L/P & J/12 Public and Judicial Department (Separate). Released August 1997.

3. The only papers which remain closed are:

- a few papers in the files of the Intelligence and Security Agencies which do not add to the substantive account in the IPI Office collection. These Intelligence records are withheld from release with the approval of the Lord Chancellor, in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Acts;
- one paper from the IPI collection which is retained on grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

116

FAX MESSAGE / CRASH CRASH CRASH

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO: HICOMIND LONDON

Navdeep Suri, Counsellor (P&I) from JS(EW)

Dear Navdeep,

The attached article in the front page of The Asian Age of today, refers to the refusal by the British Government to declassify some of its top secret files containing reference to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose till 2021, thwarting the efforts of the Justice Mukherjee Commission which is charged with the investigation of Netaji's disappearance.

Grateful if you could send some clarification on the veracity of this report.

Regards,

No. /JS(EW)/2001

Bhaswati

(Bhaswati Mukherjee)
Joint Secretary (EW)
21st August 2001

✓
HC / ADHC / Cons (P&I)

File
FW

For wa - he gone
2/8
Cons (P&I)

THE ASIAN AGE
21. 08. 2001

(117)

UK refuses access to Netaji files

By OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, Aug. 20: The British government has refused to declassify some of its top secret files containing references to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose till 2021, thwarting renewed efforts being made in India to unravel the mystery behind his disappearance during World War II over 55 years ago.

The files will remain sealed in British archives for another 20 years, reportedly for security reasons.

Members of the Justice Mukherjee Commission, which is charged with investigating Netaji's disappearance, met two British experts, Col. J. Hughtoye and Lord Peter Archur, who have had access to the classified material, in London last month. But while both of them readily cooperated with the commission, the British government refused to allow the Indian investigators direct access to the classified material. A spokesperson of the British high commission in New Delhi said: "Turn to Page 2"

Netaji files in UK

Continued from Page 1

New Delhi, Mr Gerry McCrudden, said here that the British government had declassified all the files that it had in its archives which dealt with Netaji's disappearance. "All the files we had on Netaji have been opened for people to see. However, there are a few files which are still classified, which have nothing to do with Netaji's disappearance. They might have some reference to Netaji but have absolutely no information on his disappearance."

Dr Purabi Roy, a Russian expert and leading researcher on Netaji's disappearance who has been conducting her research in Moscow and Britain, expressed doubts about the rationale behind the British government's decision. Dr Roy, who firmly believes that Bose did not die in the 1945 aircraft crash, alleged that there was a "deep-rooted" conspiracy for long at the highest level to suppress facts about Netaji as a "Pandora's box might open" if the truth came out.

The Justice Mukherjee Commission, which has been sitting alternately in New Delhi and Kolkata ever since it was set up by the Vajpayee government in 1999, has had its term extended twice. It has organised a number of hearings, talked to a large number of witnesses, including several former aides of Netaji, and recorded their views. The commission's next session will be on Wednesday, when it is scheduled to record the testimony of more witnesses.



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
LONDON

Political Wing

FAX MESSAGE

Number of pages : 1

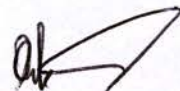
To: Foreign New Delhi

JS(EW) from Counsellor(Pol)

Your fax message of August 21 on article in the Asian Age regarding refusal by the British Government to declassify some of its top secret files pertaining to the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

I have spoken to both FCO and the Historical Records Division. The position outlined by the spokesperson of the British High Commission is factually correct. It is true that there are some files pertaining to Netaji in the possession of the British Government. However they are in the nature of intelligence records which are **never** declassified. Hence there is no prospect of their being put in the public domain even in 2021.

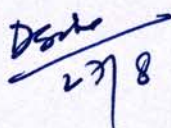
British officials have repeatedly emphasised (including to Justice Mukherjee when he met them in London) that although these files are classified they do not contain any additional information about Netaji which is not already in the public domain.

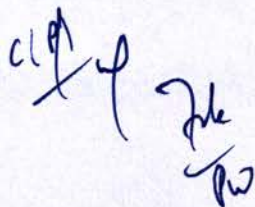
Respectfully,

(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)
24.8.2001

Fax ed.

For info




27/8


File
PW



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

119

FAX MESSAGE / CRASH CRASH CRASH

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO: HICOMIND LONDON

Navdeep Suri, Counsellor (P&I) from JS(EW)

Dear Navdeep,

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Grateful if you could send some clarification on the veracity of this report.

Regards,

No. JS(EW)/2001

Bhaswati

(Bhaswati Mukherjee)
Joint Secretary (EW)
21st August 2001

Could you find out if there is any basis to these reports?

*Done
21/8*

HC / ADHC / Cons (P&I)

Cons (P&I)

THE ASIAN AGE

21. 08. 2001

120

UK refuses access to Netaji files

BY OUR SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT

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Turn to Page 2

Netaji files in UK

Continued from Page 1

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विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

124

FAX MESSAGE / CRASH CRASH CRASH

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI
TO : HICOMIND LONDON

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Bhaswati

(Bhaswati Mukherjee)
Joint Secretary (EW)
21st August 2001

HC / ADHC / Cons (P&I)

✓
MC
PW

THE ASIAN AGE
21. 08. 2001

122

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Netaji files in UK

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Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)

भारत का हाई कमीशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

1/10
123

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

July 17, 2001.


Dear Mrs. Brook,

With reference to your letter No. OIOC2-109-96-26 dated July 13, 2001, I am faxing herewith completed application forms for Readers Passes in respect of Justice MK Mukherjee, Mr. P.K. Sengupta and Ms. Krishna De.

I would be grateful if you could kindly keep the Readers Passes ready for the members of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry when they visit the British Library tomorrow.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Mrs. PA Brook,
Head of India Office Records
The British Library
Oriental and India Office Collections
96 Euston Road
LONDON NW1

- Fared

124

Official use

Please return completed application form by post or fax to:
The British Library Reader Admissions Office 96 Euston Road London NW1 2DB
Tel +44 (0)20 7412 7677 Fax +44 (0)20 7412 7794

Application form to apply for a reader pass

- ☒ I wish to apply for a new reader pass ☐ I wish to renew my reader pass

Reader number: _____

Please fill in this form in Capital letters using a ballpoint pen

I All researchers

- Your surname MUKHERJEE
- Your forenames M. K.
- Your title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, etc) Mr JUSTICE

■ Home/permanent address

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
B' Block (Third floor)
11/A Mira Ghahib Street
KOLKATA

Postcode 700081 Country INDIA

Telephone 0091 33 2522835 Fax 0091 33 216 2765

Email _____

■ Temporary address while using The British Library

Crown Plaza
London
St. James Court
Buckingham Gate, London

Postcode SW1E 6AF Country UK

Telephone 0207 834 6655 Fax 020 782 85909

Reader No: _____

Surname: _____

Firstname(s): _____

Date Pass Issued: _____

Provisional Reader: Y / N
New / Renewal

Authorisation by BL Staff

Grade C and above (where applicable)

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Dept: _____

Signature: _____

Pass authorised

- ☐ 1 month
☐ 1 year
☐ 5 years

Signature: _____

Proof of ID

- ☐ bankers card
☐ passport
☐ driving licence

Pass not authorised

- ☐ referred
☐ no ID
☐ no proof of status

Access for people with disabilities

The requirements of the Disabilities Discrimination Act 1995 have been taken into account in offering services to users at St Pancras. Please tick here if you may need assistance. ☐

From time to time we may send you further information about British Library services, publications and events.

I would like this sent to: ☐ my home address ☐ my work address ☒ do not wish to receive any mailings.

■ Declaration:

I declare that the information supplied on this form is true and agree to read and observe The British Library responsibilities.

Signature [Signature]

Date 17.7.2001

(125)

■ **About your research:** Please give details of

■ Your research

■ The items you need to see

Declassified Records of Oriental and India Office
Collection for inquiry into the alleged
disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

■ Other libraries you have already used

■ **Subjects to be researched in The British Library:**

Please tick the boxes which most closely apply (UP TO THREE BOXES):

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> agriculture | 13 <input type="radio"/> economics | 24 <input type="radio"/> linguistics | 36 <input checked="" type="radio"/> politics |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> anthropology | 14 <input type="radio"/> education | 25 <input type="radio"/> literature | 37 <input type="radio"/> psychology |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> archaeology | 15 <input type="radio"/> engineering | 26 <input type="radio"/> management | 38 <input type="radio"/> religion |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> architecture | 16 <input type="radio"/> fine & applied arts and
crafts | 27 <input type="radio"/> manuscripts | 39 <input type="radio"/> social sciences |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> astronomy | 17 <input type="radio"/> genealogy | 28 <input type="radio"/> mathematics | 40 <input type="radio"/> tourism/travel |
| 06 <input checked="" type="radio"/> biography | 18 <input type="radio"/> geography | 29 <input type="radio"/> medical sciences | 41 <input type="radio"/> transport |
| 07 <input type="radio"/> business | 19 <input type="radio"/> historical bibliography | 30 <input type="radio"/> music | 42 <input type="radio"/> women's studies |
| 08 <input type="radio"/> cartography/maps | 20 <input checked="" type="radio"/> history | 31 <input type="radio"/> patents/trade marks | |
| 09 <input type="radio"/> chemistry | 21 <input type="radio"/> information sciences | 32 <input type="radio"/> performing arts | |
| 10 <input type="radio"/> classical studies | 22 <input type="radio"/> law | 33 <input type="radio"/> philately | |
| 11 <input type="radio"/> computing/electronics | 23 <input type="radio"/> life sciences | 34 <input type="radio"/> philosophy | |
| 12 <input type="radio"/> earth sciences | | 35 <input type="radio"/> physics | |

■ **Reason for Library use:**

Please tick ONE box only and then complete the appropriate sections below or over the page:

☐ **Academic**
go to section 2

☒ **Work-related**
go to section 3

☐ **Personal**

2

Academic researchers

Please tick ONE box only:

☐ **Academic staff**
also complete section 3

☐ **Postgraduate student**

☐ **Undergraduate student**
ask your university/college librarian to complete
the recommendation below

Please bring proof of your academic status.

■ **Recommendation for undergraduate students:**

To be completed by university/college librarian.

Admission is not guaranteed and will only be granted if the items or range of materials are not available elsewhere.

■ Name of student's course:

■ Year of study:

■ Name of university/college:

DECLARATION: I verify that the materials outlined in the 'About this research' section of this form are not held at this library and that the student requires the resources of The British Library.

■ Librarian's signature

■ Librarian's name

■ Status at Library

■ Official
stamp:

3*

Occupational researchers

It will help your application if you bring a letter from your organisation confirming that your research is work-related and stating what materials you need to see.

■ **Your occupation:** Please tick the ONE box which most closely applies

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> abstractor/indexer | 10 <input type="radio"/> government staff | 17 <input type="radio"/> medical | 25 <input type="radio"/> self-employed |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> academic staff | 11 <input type="radio"/> industrial scientist/
engineer | 18 <input type="radio"/> patent/trade mark
agent/searcher | 26 <input type="radio"/> service industries |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> administrator/manager | 12 <input type="radio"/> information broker | 19 <input type="radio"/> performing arts | 27 <input type="radio"/> retired |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> architect | 13 <input type="radio"/> journalist | 20 <input type="radio"/> publisher | 28 <input type="radio"/> teacher |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> bookseller | 14 <input type="radio"/> lawyer | 21 <input type="radio"/> religion | 29 <input type="radio"/> tourism/travel industry |
| 06 <input type="radio"/> computer professional | 15 <input type="radio"/> librarian/information
scientist | 22 <input type="radio"/> researcher: picture | 30 <input type="radio"/> translator |
| 07 <input type="radio"/> curator | 16 <input type="radio"/> marketing/PR | 23 <input type="radio"/> researcher: private | 31 <input type="radio"/> unwaged |
| 08 <input type="radio"/> editor | | 24 <input type="radio"/> researcher: professional | 32 <input type="radio"/> writer |
| 09 <input type="radio"/> financial services | | | |

■ **Type of organisation you work for:** Please tick the ONE box which most closely applies

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> academic institution | 06 <input checked="" type="radio"/> government department | 10 <input type="radio"/> library | 15 <input type="radio"/> performing
arts/entertainment |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> armed forces | 07 <input type="radio"/> health care/medicine | 11 <input type="radio"/> manufacturing industry | 16 <input type="radio"/> religious organisation |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> arts organisation | 08 <input type="radio"/> information industry/
publishing | 12 <input type="radio"/> management services | 17 <input type="radio"/> retailing |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> banking and finance | 09 <input type="radio"/> legal services | 13 <input type="radio"/> media | 18 <input type="radio"/> service industry |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> charity/pressure group | | 14 <input type="radio"/> patent industry | |

■ **Organisation name and address**

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
B' Bwck, Third Floor
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street
KOLKATA

Postcode 700087

Country INDIA

Telephone 0091332-522835

Fax 0091332-162765

Email

127

Please return completed application form by post or fax to:
 The British Library Reader Admissions Office 96 Euston Road London NW1 2DB
 Tel +44 (0)20 7412 7677 Fax +44 (0)20 7412 7794

Application form to apply for a reader pass

☒ I wish to apply for a
new reader pass

☐ I wish to renew
my reader pass

Reader number:

Please fill in this form in Capital letters using a ballpoint pen

I All researchers

■ Your surname

De

■ Your forenames

KRISHNA

■ Your title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, etc)

Ms

■ Home/permanent address

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
 'B' Block (Third Floor)
 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street
 KOLKATA

Postcode

700087

Country

INDIA

Telephone

009133 2522835

Fax

009133 216 2765

Email

■ Temporary address while using The British Library

Crown Plaza London
 St. James Court
 Buckingham Gate
 London

Postcode

SW1E 6AF

Country

UK

Telephone

0207 834 6655

Fax

0207 828 5909

Official use

Reader No:

Surname:

Firstname(s):

Date Pass Issued:

Provisional Reader: Y / N

New / Renewal

Authorisation
by BL Staff

Grade C and above
(where applicable)

Name:

Grade:

Dept:

Signature:

Pass authorised

☐ 1 month

☐ 1 year

☐ 5 years

Signature:

Proof of ID

☐ bankers card

☐ passport

☐ driving licence

Pass not authorised

☐ referred

☐ no ID

☐ no proof of status

Access for people with disabilities

The requirements of the Disabilities Discrimination Act 1995 have been taken into account in offering services to users at St Pancras. Please tick here if you may need assistance.

☐

From time to time we may send you further information about British Library services, publications and events.

I would like this sent to: ☐ my home address ☐ my work address ☒ do not wish to receive any mailings.

Declaration:

I declare that the information supplied on this form is true and agree to read and observe The British Library responsibilities.

Signature



Date 17.7.2001

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Tel +44 (0)20 7412 7677 Fax +44 (0)20 7412 7794

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☒ I wish to apply for a new reader pass

☐ I wish to renew my reader pass

Reader number:

Please fill in this form in Capital letters using a ballpoint pen

I All researchers

■ Your surname SENGUPTA

■ Your forenames P.K.

■ Your title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, etc) Mr.

■ Home/permanent address
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
B' Block (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street
KOLKATA

Postcode 700087

Country INDIA

Telephone 0091 33 2522767 Fax 0091 33 262765

Email

■ Temporary address while using The British Library

Crown Plaza
London

St. James Court

Buckingham Gate, London

Postcode SW1E 6AF

Country UK

Telephone 0207 8346655 Fax 020 782 85909

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Signature

AK

Date 17.7.2001

Official use

Reader No:

Surname:

Firstname(s):

Date Pass Issued:

Provisional Reader: Y / N
New / Renewal

Authorisation
by BL Staff

Grade C and above
(where applicable)

Name:

Grade:

Dept:

Signature:

Pass authorised

☐ 1 month

☐ 1 year

☐ 5 years

Signature:

Proof of ID

☐ bankers card

☐ passport

☐ driving licence

Pass not authorised

☐ referred

☐ no ID

☐ no proof of status

129

■ **About your research:** Please give details of

■ Your research

■ The items you need to see

*Declassified records of Oriental and India Office Collections
for inquiring into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.*

■ Other libraries you have already used

■ **Subjects to be researched in The British Library:**

Please tick the boxes which most closely apply (UP TO THREE BOXES):

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> agriculture | 13 <input type="radio"/> economics | 24 <input type="radio"/> linguistics | 36 <input checked="" type="radio"/> politics |
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| 04 <input type="radio"/> architecture | 16 <input type="radio"/> fine & applied arts and crafts | 27 <input type="radio"/> manuscripts | 39 <input type="radio"/> social sciences |
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■ **Reason for Library use:**

Please tick ONE box only and then complete the appropriate sections below or over the page:

☐ **Academic**
go to section 2

☒ **Work-related**
go to section 3

☐ **Personal**

2

Academic researchers

Please tick ONE box only:

☐ **Academic staff**
also complete section 3

☐ **Postgraduate student**

☐ **Undergraduate student**
ask your university/college librarian to complete the recommendation below

Please bring proof of your academic status.

■ **Recommendation for undergraduate students:**

To be completed by university/college librarian.

Admission is not guaranteed and will only be granted if the items or range of materials are not available elsewhere.

■ Name of student's course:

■ Year of study:

■ Name of university/college:

DECLARATION: I verify that the materials outlined in the 'About this research' section of this form are not held at this library and that the student requires the resources of The British Library.

■ Librarian's signature

■ Librarian's name

■ Status at Library

■ Official stamp:

130

3

Occupational researchers

It will help your application if you bring a letter from your organisation confirming that your research is work-related and stating what materials you need to see.

■ **Your occupation:** Please tick the ONE box which most closely applies

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> abstractor/indexer | 10 <input type="radio"/> government staff | 17 <input type="radio"/> medical | 25 <input type="radio"/> self-employed |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> academic staff | 11 <input type="radio"/> industrial scientist/
engineer | 18 <input type="radio"/> patent/trade mark
agent/searcher | 26 <input type="radio"/> service industries |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> administrator/manager | 12 <input type="radio"/> information broker | 19 <input type="radio"/> performing arts | 27 <input type="radio"/> retired |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> architect | 13 <input type="radio"/> journalist | 20 <input type="radio"/> publisher | 28 <input type="radio"/> teacher |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> bookseller | 14 <input type="radio"/> lawyer | 21 <input type="radio"/> religion | 29 <input type="radio"/> tourism/travel industry |
| 06 <input type="radio"/> computer professional | 15 <input type="radio"/> librarian/information
scientist | 22 <input type="radio"/> researcher: picture | 30 <input type="radio"/> translator |
| 07 <input type="radio"/> curator | 16 <input type="radio"/> marketing/PR | 23 <input type="radio"/> researcher: private | 31 <input type="radio"/> unwaged |
| 08 <input type="radio"/> editor | | 24 <input type="radio"/> researcher: professional | 32 <input type="radio"/> writer |
| 09 <input type="radio"/> financial services | | | |

■ **Type of organisation you work for:** Please tick the ONE box which most closely applies

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> academic institution | 06 <input checked="" type="radio"/> government department | 10 <input type="radio"/> library | 15 <input type="radio"/> performing
arts/entertainment |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> armed forces | 07 <input type="radio"/> health care/medicine | 11 <input type="radio"/> manufacturing industry | 16 <input type="radio"/> religious organisation |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> arts organisation | 08 <input type="radio"/> information industry/
publishing | 12 <input type="radio"/> management services | 17 <input type="radio"/> retailing |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> banking and finance | 09 <input type="radio"/> legal services | 13 <input type="radio"/> media | 18 <input type="radio"/> service industry |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> charity/pressure group | | 14 <input type="radio"/> patent industry | |

■ **Organisation name and address**

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

'B' Block, Third Floor

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street

KOLKATA

Postcode 700087

Country INDIA

Telephone 009133 2522835

Fax 009133216 2765

Email

3 Occupational researchers

It will help your application if you bring a letter from your organisation confirming that your research is work-related and stating what materials you need to see.

■ **Your occupation:** Please tick the ONE box which most closely applies

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> abstractor/indexer | 10 <input type="radio"/> government staff | 17 <input type="radio"/> medical | 25 <input type="radio"/> self-employed |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> academic staff | 11 <input type="radio"/> industrial scientist/
engineer | 18 <input type="radio"/> patent/trade mark
agent/searcher | 26 <input type="radio"/> service industries |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> administrator/manager | 12 <input type="radio"/> information broker | 19 <input type="radio"/> performing arts | 27 <input type="radio"/> retired |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> architect | 13 <input type="radio"/> journalist | 20 <input type="radio"/> publisher | 28 <input type="radio"/> teacher |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> bookseller | 14 <input type="radio"/> lawyer | 21 <input type="radio"/> religion | 29 <input type="radio"/> tourism/travel industry |
| 06 <input type="radio"/> computer professional | 15 <input type="radio"/> librarian/information
scientist | 22 <input type="radio"/> researcher: picture | 30 <input type="radio"/> translator |
| 07 <input type="radio"/> curator | 16 <input type="radio"/> marketing/PR | 23 <input type="radio"/> researcher: private | 31 <input type="radio"/> unwaged |
| 08 <input type="radio"/> editor | | 24 <input type="radio"/> researcher: professional | 32 <input type="radio"/> writer |
| 09 <input type="radio"/> financial services | | | |

■ **Type of organisation you work for:** Please tick the ONE box which most closely applies

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> academic institution | 06 <input checked="" type="radio"/> government department | 10 <input type="radio"/> library | 15 <input type="radio"/> performing
arts/entertainment |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> armed forces | 07 <input type="radio"/> health care/medicine | 11 <input type="radio"/> manufacturing industry | 16 <input type="radio"/> religious organisation |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> arts organisation | 08 <input type="radio"/> information industry/
publishing | 12 <input type="radio"/> management services | 17 <input type="radio"/> retailing |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> banking and finance | 09 <input type="radio"/> legal services | 13 <input type="radio"/> media | 18 <input type="radio"/> service industry |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> charity/pressure group | | 14 <input type="radio"/> patent industry | |

■ Organisation name and address	
Jusika Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry	
'B' Block, Third Floor,	
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street	
KOLKATA	
Postcode	700087
Country	INDIA
Telephone	0091332522835
Fax	0091332162765
Email	

132

■ **About your research:** Please give details of

■ Your research

■ The items you need to see

*Declassified Records of Oriental and India Office Collections
for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash
Chandra Bose.*

■ Other libraries you have already used

■ **Subjects to be researched in The British Library:**

Please tick the boxes which most closely apply (UP TO THREE BOXES):

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 01 <input type="radio"/> agriculture | 13 <input type="radio"/> economics | 24 <input type="radio"/> linguistics | 36 <input checked="" type="radio"/> politics |
| 02 <input type="radio"/> anthropology | 14 <input type="radio"/> education | 25 <input type="radio"/> literature | 37 <input type="radio"/> psychology |
| 03 <input type="radio"/> archaeology | 15 <input type="radio"/> engineering | 26 <input type="radio"/> management | 38 <input type="radio"/> religion |
| 04 <input type="radio"/> architecture | 16 <input type="radio"/> fine & applied arts and
crafts | 27 <input type="radio"/> manuscripts | 39 <input type="radio"/> social sciences |
| 05 <input type="radio"/> astronomy | 17 <input type="radio"/> genealogy | 28 <input type="radio"/> mathematics | 40 <input type="radio"/> tourism/travel |
| 06 <input checked="" type="radio"/> biography | 18 <input type="radio"/> geography | 29 <input type="radio"/> medical sciences | 41 <input type="radio"/> transport |
| 07 <input type="radio"/> business | 19 <input type="radio"/> historical bibliography | 30 <input type="radio"/> music | 42 <input type="radio"/> women's studies |
| 08 <input type="radio"/> cartography/maps | 20 <input checked="" type="radio"/> history | 31 <input type="radio"/> patents/trade marks | |
| 09 <input type="radio"/> chemistry | 21 <input type="radio"/> information sciences | 32 <input type="radio"/> performing arts | |
| 10 <input type="radio"/> classical studies | 22 <input type="radio"/> law | 33 <input type="radio"/> philately | |
| 11 <input type="radio"/> computing/electronics | 23 <input type="radio"/> life sciences | 34 <input type="radio"/> philosophy | |
| 12 <input type="radio"/> earth sciences | | 35 <input type="radio"/> physics | |

■ **Reason for Library use:**

Please tick ONE box only and then complete the appropriate sections below or over the page:

☐ **Academic**
go to section 2

☐ **Work-related**
go to section 3

☐ **Personal**

2

Academic researchers

Please tick ONE box only:

☐ **Academic staff**
also complete section 3

☐ **Postgraduate student**

☐ **Undergraduate student**
ask your university/college librarian to complete
the recommendation below

Please bring proof of your academic status.

■ **Recommendation for undergraduate students:**

To be completed by university/college librarian.

Admission is not guaranteed and will only be granted if the items or range of materials are not available elsewhere.

■ Name of student's course:

■ Year of study:

■ Name of university/college:

DECLARATION: I verify that the materials outlined in the 'About this research' section of this form are not held at this library and that the student requires the resources of The British Library.

■ Librarian's signature

■ Librarian's name

■ Status at Library

■ Official
stamp:

138




HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
LONDON
Political Wing
FAX MESSAGE

Number of pages : 2
(including this page)

To: St. James Court Hotel, Crowne Plaza

Please pass the enclosed message to Mr. P.K Sengupta, who is staying in Room No. 675.


(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)
26.7.2001

134



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

July 26, 2001

To
Mrs. Mary Claphinson
Department of Western Manuscripts
Bodleian Library
OXFORD

Dear Madam,

A delegation from the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry is currently visiting London to enquire into the circumstances surrounding the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The delegation wishes to consult the Attlee Papers in the Bodleian Library.

The members of the delegation are as follows:

- (a) Justice M.K Mukherjee, Chairman
- (b) Mr. P.K Sengupta, Secretary
- (c) Mrs. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

I would be grateful if you could kindly facilitate their access to the records in the Bodleian Library.

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)




HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
LONDON
Political Wing
FAX MESSAGE

MOST IMMEDIATE

Number of pages : **2**
(including this page)

To: ST. JAMES COURT HOTEL
(ATTN: MR. P.K. SENGUPTA, ROOM NO. 675)

Please deliver the enclosed paper to Mr. P.K Sengupta who
is staying in Room No. 675 urgently.


(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)
20.7.2001

LIST OF CONTACT NUMBERS REQUESTED

(136)

Hartley Library 02380 592180
University of Southampton
University Road, Highfield
(Open Mon-Friday 9-6 p.m.)
(I have spoken to the Library and they would welcome your visit
anytime).

Churchill Archives, Cambridge Univ 01223 336087

Churchill College (There is no 01223 336000
Cambridge University College in
Oxford)

Department of Western Manuscripts 020 74127513
British Library(for Attlee Papers)

Bodleian Library, Oxford 01865 277000

Broadland Archives
University of Southampton 02380 592721

From: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Archer of Sandwell, Q.C.

Tel. 71 219 3223



House of Lords
London SW1A 0PW

137

Mr Navdeep Suri
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London WC2B 4NA

17th July 2001

Your ref: Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Mr Navdeep Suri,

Thank you for your letter, updating me as to the visit from the Commission under Mr Justice Mukherjee.

Mr Rishi Chakrabarty had already approached me on the matter, and I agreed with him to meet the Commission at 11am on Monday 23rd July.

I hope that this is a suitable time.

Sincerely,
Lord Archer

*M
19/7
(L Pol)*



NAVDEEP SURI
COUNSELLOR (P&I)

TELEPHONE: 020-7836 5242
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON, W.C.2
TELEX: 267166 HCI LDN
FAX: 020 7836 2632
E-MAIL: nsuri@compuserve.com

COPY

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

138

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
PRESS & INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

18 July, 2001

Shri P.K.Sengupta,

Please refer to your d.o. No. JMCI/doc(for)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205 dated July 9, 2001 to Shri H.S.Puri, Deputy High Commissioner regarding visit of JMCI to U.K. Shri Puri is currently out of country and has directed me to respond in the interim.

As desired, we are getting in touch with Lord Archer and Col. Toye to fix dates for recording their evidence.

With regard to the enclosed copy of the notice, I am directed to convey that the coordinating officer from the High Commission will be Shri Vikas Swarup, Counsellor(Pol) and not Shri R.K. Kalra, First Secretary(Pol) as mentioned in the notice.

We have made preliminary enquiries regarding dissemination of the notice through the British as well as Indian ethnic publications. The rates for a single column advertisement in the Times would be £ 245 (approximately Rs. Sixteen thousand, one hundred and seventy only) The rate for publication of the advertisement in India Weekly is £ 120 (approximately Rs. Seven thousand nine hundred & twenty only) and in Eastern Eye £ 120 (approximately Rs. Seven thousand nine hundred & twenty only)

In view of the financial implications involved in dissemination of the notice, we would await your instructions on the manner of advertisement and the publications in which it should be placed. We would also request you to obtain the necessary sanction to cover the necessary expenditure involved in the advertisement.

Yours faithfully,

(Navdeep Suri)
Counsellor(P&I)

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose,
'B' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700087

Fax No. 004420 78364331

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA ROSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252-2005
Secretary - 252-2761
Officer on
Special Duty - 252-2765
Office - 252 2760/68

139

No. JMC1/Doc(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol II)/208(61)

Calcutta, dated, July 10 2001

From
Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
Sri H.S. Puri,
Deputy High Commissioner
India House Aldwich,
London WC2B4NA

Subject : Visit of a team of the Commission to London to study
the declassified records/files, etc. at British Library -
Issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the members of the team.

Sir,

In continuation of the Commission's Letter No. JMC1/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205 dated July 9, 2001, sent by FAX, I am directed to send herewith a copy of the letter dated September 21, 2000 of Mrs. P.A. Brook, Head of India Office Records, addressed to Sri S.K. Mondal, the High Commission of India, India House, London.

I am directed to request you to kindly make necessary arrangements for issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the following members of the team of the Commission :-

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna De.

The team of the Commission led by the Chairman will arrive at the India Office Library at 9-30 hrs. on 18.7.2001. It will be highly appreciated if all necessary arrangements for issue of Readers' Pass are made before that.

I am further to request you to kindly make it convenient to ascertain from the British Library the cost of obtaining Micro-fiche published of the records.

Yours faithfully

P. Sengupta
(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Encl: One.

97
DHC / Coun (P2)
Coun (P2)

(140)

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Mr S K Mandal
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7830 7840
Telephone 020 7412 7412
Fax 020 7412 7411/7858
E-mail oicw-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC2-109-96-26
your ref
date 21 September 2000

Dear Mr Mandal

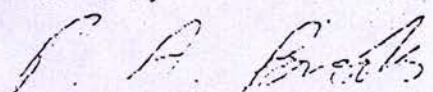
Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Shaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series - one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely


Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail penny.brook@bl.uk

(141)

**THE BRITISH LIBRARY
ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE COLLECTIONS
96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON
NW1 2DB**

**Tel: +44 (0)20 7142 7873
Fax: +44 (0)20 7412 7641
E-mail: oioc-enquiries@bl.uk**

TO: Navdeep Suri

DEPARTMENT: High Commission of India

FAX: 020 7836 6695

FROM: Penny Brook, Head of India Office Records

TEL: +44 (0)20 7412 7840

MESSAGE: Last week I sent a fax to Sri H S Puri at the High Commission, a copy of which is attached. It is not a problem if it is not possible to fill in the forms in advance – it can easily be done on the morning of 18 July, it will just take a little longer. Please could the Commission report to the Information Desk in the British Library's main entrance hall. I will meet them there.

**DATE: 16 July 2001
PAGES TO FOLLOW: 0**

Handwritten signature/initials

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

(142)

Sri H S Puri
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7840
Telephone 020 7412
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref
your ref
date

OIOC2-109-96-26

13 July 2001

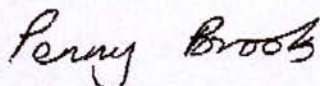
Dear Mr Puri

Visit of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry

I have been discussing with a colleague in the British Library Reader Admissions Office how we can best ensure the minimum of delay in issuing reader's passes to the members of the Justice Mukherjee Commission visiting the India Office Records on 18 July. The application form for a reader's pass is now available as a printable form on our web-site <http://www.bl.uk> which can be located by selecting 'visiting the library in person' under the heading 'please select one of the following options' which is on our home page. On the next screen, select 'admissions' and on the next screen select 'applying for admission'. If a form can be filled out in advance for each member of the Commission and faxed to me, I can arrange for their details to be entered in our reader admissions system before they arrive, and on 18 July it will then only be necessary to take their photographs and check their means of identity (e.g. passport).

I am copying this to Sri P K Sengupta as I am not sure which of you is better placed to arrange for the forms to be filled in and sent to me by fax.

Yours sincerely



Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail: penny.brook@bl.uk

~~CRASH~~

~~CRASH~~

~~CRASH~~
Total Nos of pages: Two

FAX MESSAGE

FROM : FOREIGN NEW DELHI
TO : SECRETARY,
JUSTICE MUKHERJEE
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY,
CALCUTTA.
(FAX NO.0091-033-252-2765)

SECRETARY FROM DIRECTOR (CNV)

Please refer to your letter no. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-200/56/Vol.II/83 & 157 dated 18.05.2001 and 18.06.2001 respectively, regarding your proposed visit to UK to study the de-classified records at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witness.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of self explanatory fax received from Shri Vikas Swarup, Counsellor(Pol.), High Commission of India, London for your information and appropriate action.

File
encl.

N. Chauhan
(Narinder Chauhan)
Director(CNV)

NO. 25/4/NGO Vol.VI

Dated 26.06.2001

Copy for information to :

✓ Shri Vikas Swarup, Counsellor(Pol.), High Commission of India, London, w.r.t their fax dated 25.06.2001.



सत्यमेव जयते

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
LONDON
Political Wing
FAX MESSAGE

144

Number of pages : 1
(including this page)

To: Mr Richard Beveins

Dear Mr Beveins

This is to confirm your Meeting at 3 P.M. on Monday July 23, 2001 with Mr Justice M.K. Mukherjee and Mr P.K.Sen Gupta. Mr Justice Mukherjee is the Chairman of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)
19/07/2001

Tel: 0207836 7369

7/26
Pw

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

'B' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252-2835
Secretary - 252-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 252-2765
Office - 252-2766/68

145

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/208(61)

Calcutta, dated, July 10 2001

From
Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
Sri H.S. Puri
Deputy High Commissioner
India House Aldwich,
London WC2B4NA

Subject : **Visit of a team of the Commission to London to study
the declassified records/files, etc. at British Library –
Issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the members of the team.**

Sir,

In continuation of the Commission's Letter No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205 dated July 9, 2001, sent by FAX, I am directed to send herewith a copy of the letter dated September 21, 2000 of Mrs. P.A. Brook, Head of India Office Records, addressed to Sri S.K. Mondal, the High Commission of India, India House, London.

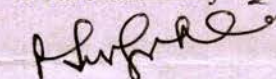
I am directed to request you to kindly make necessary arrangements for issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the following members of the team of the Commission :-

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna De.

The team of the Commission led by the Chairman will arrive at the India Office Library at 9-30 hrs. on 18.7.2001. It will be highly appreciated if all necessary arrangements for issue of Readers' Pass are made before that.

I am further to request you to kindly make it convenient to ascertain from the British Library the cost of obtaining Micro-fiche published of the records.

Yours faithfully



(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Enclo: One.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

146

Mr S K Mandal
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7840
Telephone 020 7412
Fax 020 7412 7644/7858
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC2-109-96-26
your ref
date 21 September 2000

Dear Mr Mandal

Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Shaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series – one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail penny.brook@bl.uk

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252-2835
Secretary - 252-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 252-2765
Office - 252-2766/68

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
Sri H.S. Puri
Deputy High Commissioner
India House Aldwich, London
WC2B4NA

Fax No. 004420 78364331

Subject : Visit of the Commission to U.K. to study the declassified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witnesses including Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Teye.

Sir,

I am directed to request you to kindly refer to your d.o. letter no. Lon/Pol./103/17/00 dated 27.2.2001 addressed to Sri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (AMS and CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, on the aforesaid subject, a copy of which was sent to this Commission by Sri Jayant Prasad alongwith his d.o. letter no. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI dt. 8.3.2001, and to say that during its visit to London the Commission will study documents and records relating to its sphere of inquiry at the British Library (and other libraries/archives/offices, if brought to its notice) on and from 18.7.2001. During its stay, the Commission intends to record the evidence of Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Teye and such other persons as the Commission may deem necessary.

In that context I am directed to request you to kindly contact Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Teye before the arrival of the Commission to ascertain their convenience so that immediately after arrival in London it may fix date(s) for recording their evidence. The addresses of Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Teye are :

7 Old School Court, , Wraysbury
Staines, Middlesex T.W. 19 5 B P

Col. Hugh Teye
5 Farm Close Lane, Wheatley
Oxford OX33 IUG

I am also directed to request you to kindly spare a competent officer of your office to act as a Liaison Officer of the Commission during its stay.

I am further directed to send herewith a copy of a notice which may kindly be given wide publicity in any manner as you may deem fit to enable the persons interested to respond to the same.

I am directed to request you to kindly make necessary arrangements for the issue of British Library Readers' Pass in favour of the following :-

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

Yoursfaithfully

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Encl: One

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205/1(4)

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

1. Sri Jayanta Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001.
2. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi 110 001
3. Ms. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001
4. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

(P.K. Sengupta)

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

(148)
Phone:
Chairman -- 252-2835
Secretary -- 252-2767
Officer on
Special Duty -- 252-2765
Office -- 252-2766/68

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/206

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

NOTICE

A one-man Commission with Justice Monoj Kumar Mukherjee, a retired Judge of Supreme Court of India, as Chairman, has been set up by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments connected therewith including :

- (a) Whether Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is dead or alive;
- (b) If he is dead, whether he died in the plane crash, as alleged;
- (c) Whether the ashes in the Japanese temple are ashes of Netaji;
- (d) Whether he has died in any other manner at any other place and, if so, when and how;
- (e) If he is alive, in respect of his whereabouts.

The Commission has further been asked to examine the manner in which the exercise of scrutiny of Publications touching upon the question of death or otherwise of Netaji can be undertaken by the Central Government in the circumstances.

The Commission will be visiting London from 17.07.2001 to study the declassified documents and records relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Boise at the British Library in London and also to record evidence of persons having knowledge and/or possessing documents relating to the aforesaid points of inquiry.

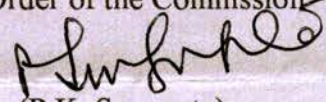
Persons acquainted with or, having knowledge of facts and circumstances relating to the aforesaid points of inquiry and wishing to assist the Commission in making the inquiry may contact the Secretary of the Commission or Mr. R.K. Kalra, First Secretary (Protocol), High Commission of India, London (Protocol Wing). India House, Aldwych, London, WC-2B 4 NA, on any working day within seven days from 18.07.2001 and furnish their statements supported with documents, if any, relevant to the aforesaid points of inquiry to the Commission.

The address of the Commission in London will be :-

Crowne Plaza London
St. James Hotel & Suites
Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF

Phone No. 020 7834 6655
Fax No. 020 7828 5909

By Order of the Commission


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary



Navdeep Suri
Counsellor (P&I)

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

149

12 July 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Lord Archer,

You would recall our Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Puri's letter of April 10 requesting for a meeting with the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. While you had very kindly agreed to meet with the Chairman of the Commission in May, the visit itself, unfortunately, had to be rescheduled due to the unavoidable reasons.

The Commission is now scheduled to visit London from July 18 to August 6. The team of the Commission would comprise:

- (a) Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
- (b) Mr. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
- (c) Ms. Krishna De, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

The Commission has again expressed a desire to interview you as one of the witnesses. I am, therefore, writing once again to ascertain your convenience to meet them on any day between July 18 to August 6, 2001.

I shall be grateful of an early response.

Yours sincerely,

(Navdeep Suri)

Rt. Hon The Lord Archer of Sandwell
Highcroft, Hill View Road
Wraysbury, Staines
Middlesex TW19 5EQ



Navdeep Suri
Counsellor (P&I)

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

150

12 July 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Col. Hugh,

You would recall our Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Puri's letter of April 10 requesting for a meeting with the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. While you had very kindly agreed to meet with the Chairman of the Commission in May, the visit itself, unfortunately, had to be rescheduled due to the unavoidable reasons.

The Commission is now scheduled to visit London from July 18 to August 6. The team of the Commission would comprise:

- (a) Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
- (b) Mr. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
- (c) Ms. Krishna De, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

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I shall be grateful of an early response.

Yours sincerely,

Navdeep Suri
(Navdeep Suri)

Col. Hugh Toye
5 Firm Close Lane
Wheatley,
Oxford 33-1

(151)



Navdeep Suri
Counsellor (P&I.)

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

12 July 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Mrs. Brook,

I am writing with reference to our earlier correspondence regarding the visit of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

In your letter of September 21, 2001 to Mr. S.K Mandal you had indicated that it would be appropriate for the Commission members to apply for a British Library Reader's Pass.

I am writing to convey that the Commission would be arriving in London on July 17. The team of the Commission would comprise of the following:

- (i) Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
- (ii) Mr. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
- (iii) Ms. Krishna De, Assistant Director, National Archives of India

The team of the Commission led by the Chairman, proposes to arrive at the India Office Library at 0930 hrs on 18th July, 2001. I would be grateful if necessary arrangements could be made to receive the Commission and also issue Readers' Passes to them.

In your message, you had also indicated that copies of relevant micro fiches can be purchased from the library. Would it be possible to indicate the approximate price of a micro fiche so that we can make financial arrangements accordingly.

I look forward to receiving your response soon.

Yours sincerely,

(Navdeep Suri)

Mrs. P.A. Brook
Head of the India Office Records
The British Library
Oriental and India Office Collections
26 Euston Road, LONDON



NAVDEEP SURI
COUNSELLOR (P&I)

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
PRESS & INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

TELEPHONE: 020-7836 5242
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON, W.C.2
TELEX: 267166 HCI LDN
FAX: 020 7836 2632
E-MAIL: nsuri@compuserve.com

11 July, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Lord Archer,

*our Deputy High Commissioner
Mr. Puri's
with whom was
appointed*

You would recall my letter of April 10 requesting for a meeting with the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. While you had very kindly agreed to meet with the Chairman of the Commission, the visit itself, unfortunately, had to be rescheduled due to the unavoidable reasons. *in May*

The Commission is now scheduled to visit London from July 18 to August 6. The team of the Commission would comprise:

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. *Mr* Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna De, *Assistant Director, National Archives of India*

The Commission has again expressed a desire to interview you as one of the witnesses. I am, therefore, writing once again to ascertain your convenience to meet them on any day between July 18 to August 6. I shall be grateful for an early response.

Yours ^SSincerely,

(Navdeep Suri)

Rt. Hon. The Lord Archer of Sandwell,
Highcroft, Hill View Road,
Wraysbury, Staines
Middlesex TW 19 5EQ



सत्यमेव जयते

NAVDEEP SURI
COUNSELLOR (P&I)

TELEPHONE: 020-7836 5242
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON, W.C.2
TELEX: 267166 HCI LDN
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भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
PRESS & INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

11 July, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

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2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna De

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Yours Sincerely,

(Navdeep Suri)

Col. Hugh Toye,
5 Firm Close Lane,
Wheatley,
Oxford 33-1

Same changes in last Archer letter



Navdeep Suri
COUNSELLOR (P&I)

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
PRESS & INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

TELEPHONE: 0207-836 5242
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON, W.C.2
TELEX: 267166 HCI LDN
FAX: 44 0207-836 2632
EMAIL: nsuri@compuserve.com

No. Lon/Pol/103/17/00

July 11, 2001

Dear Mrs. Brook,

I am writing with reference to our earlier correspondence regarding the visit of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

In your letter of September 21, 2001 to Mr. S.K. Mandal you had indicated that it would be appropriate for the Commission members to apply for a British Library Reader's Pass.

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I am writing to convey that the Commission would be arriving in London on July 17. The Commission would comprise of the following:

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. *Mr. S.K.* P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna De *Asst Director, National Archives of India*

The team of the Commission, led by the Chairman, proposes to arrive at the India Office Library at 0930 hrs on 18th July, 2001. I would be grateful if necessary arrangements could be made to receive the Commission and also issue *Readers'* passes to them.

In your message, you had also indicated that copies of relevant micro fiches can be purchased from the library. Would it be possible to indicate the approximate price of a micro fiche *financial* so that we can make arrangements accordingly.

I look forward to receiving your response soon.

Yours sincerely,

(Navdeep Suri)

Mrs. P.A. Brook,
Head of India Office Records,
The British Library,
Oriental and India Office Collections,
26 Euston Road
London



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

103/17/01

Lon/Pol/01

June 26, 2001

Dear Graham,

Further to my message of June 26, there has been a change in the visit of the delegation from the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. The delegation will now be arriving in London on 17th July, 2001 and will remain till 5th August, 2001.


The members of the delegation will be as follows:

- (a) Justice M.K Mukherjee, Chairman
- (b) Shri P.K Sengupta, Secretary
- (c) Smt. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

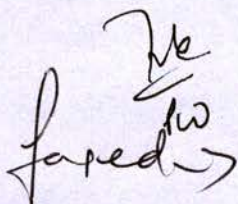
I would be grateful if you could kindly facilitate their access to the records in the British Library.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Graham Shaw,
Deputy Director,
British Library's Oriental
and Indian Office Collections
LONDON (Fax 74127858)



156

Fax Message

5th July, 2001

Director (CNV)'s Office
Tel: 301-4070/3015716
Fax: 379-4587

From: Foreign New Delhi,
To: Hicomind London
(fax No. 836-4331)

DHC from Director (CNV)

Rptd to: Counsellor (Political) Shri Vikas Swarup,
Fax No. (0044-207-836-6696)

Reference correspondence regarding visit of delegation from Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

The delegation will now be departing Calcutta on July 16, 2001 by AI-683 at 2235 hrs. They will be arriving London via Mumbai (by AI-123 on 17.7.2001)

The members of the delegation will be as follows:

1. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman;
2. Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary;
3. Smt. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

The purpose of the visit is to study the declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose/I.N.A. at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witnesses during the visit of the Commission to UK from July 16, 2001 to August 6, 2001, including journey time.

The expected date of departure from London is 5.8.2001.

Arrangements may kindly be made accordingly for reception, seeing off, hotel and transport arrangements. Sanction has already been faxed.

Regards,

R Chauhan
(Narinder Chauhan)

53
He/DHC/Coun/Pol) / Fs(protocol)

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

'D' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

JUL. 03 2001 03:35PM P1

Chairman -- 252 2835

Secretary -- 252-2767

Officer on

Special Duty 252-2765

Office -- 252-2765/68

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol II)/185

Calcutta, dated, July 3 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

Dear

I am directed to request you to refer to the Commission's fax message dated 2.7.2001 regarding postponement of the visit to the U.K. scheduled to commence from 7.7.2001. Commission had no alternative but to postpone the visit as necessary approval and financial sanction had not been received till then. Now from the Fax message from Sri B.R. Dhimo, Under Secretary of your Ministry, received at this end at about 6-45 P.M. yesterday, it appears that the competent authority has approved the proposed visit. You must appreciate that this fax message is not sufficient for going ahead for the visit.

For drawal of advance for purchase of air tickets and obtaining visa, order of approval of the tour and financial sanction are essential. In any case, it is not possible to stick to the earlier schedule which has already been postponed with intimation to all concerned.

We need confirmation from you regarding entitlement of the Hon'ble Chairman and myself to air travel. It is presumed that the Hon'ble Chairman is entitled to First Class. As regards myself, it is presumed, as per express stipulation in the annexure II to the letter dated June 10, 1999 of the Hon'ble Chairman to Sri Nikhil Kumar, Special Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi 110 001, I am entitled to the class to which I was entitled till my superannuation as Principal Secretary in the scale of Rs.22,400-525-25,000/-. It may please be confirmed that I am entitled to Club/Business class of Air India.

Further steps for rescheduling the tour will be taken after receiving formal order of approval, financial sanction indicating the rates of daily allowance, contingencies, etc. admissible and confirmation regarding entitlement to class in Air India.

This is extremely urgent.

With warm regards,

Yours

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Ms. Sangita Gairola,
Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of Home Affairs (IS),
North Block, New Delhi 110 001.

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/185/1

Calcutta, dated, July 3, 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

1. Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of India, London
(Fax: 0044 20 78364331) for favour of information
2. Shri S. Singh, S.O., JMCI, New Delhi c/o. Shri V.P. Bhatia - for information. He is requested to follow up the matter and report the latest developments.

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Cons (Pol) by He PW

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252 2835
 Secretary - 252-2787
 Officer on
 Special Duty - 252-2765
 Office - 252-2766/68

158

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/185

Calcutta, dated, July 3 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

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Yours,

(Signature)
 (P.K. Sengupta)
 Secretary

Ms. Sangita Gairola,
 Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India,
 Ministry of Home Affairs (IS),
 North Block, New Delhi 110 001.

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/185/1

Calcutta, dated, July 23 2001

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 (Fax: 0044 20 78364331) for favour of information

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(Signature)
 (P.K. Sengupta)
 Secretary

Cons (for)
if file

159

Fax Message

5th July, 2001

Director (CNV)'s Office
Tel: 301-4070/3015716
Fax: 379-4587

107/12/00

From: Foreign New Delhi.
To: Hicomind London
(fax No. 836-4331)

DHC from Director (CNV)

Rptd to: Counsellor (Political) Shri Vikas Swarup,
Fax No. (0044-207-836-6696)

Coun (Pol) or
C (Pol) has
seen

Reference correspondence regarding visit of delegation from Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

PW

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The members of the delegation will be as follows:

1. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman;
2. Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary;
3. Smt. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

The purpose of the visit is to study the declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose/I.N.A. at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witnesses during the visit of the Commission to UK from July 16, 2001 to August 6, 2001, including journey time.

The expected date of departure from London is 5.8.2001.

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Regards,

N Chauhan
(Narinder Chauhan)

53
He/DHC/Coun/Pol/Fs(protocol)

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

(160)

Sri H S Puri
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7840
Telephone 020 7412
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC2-109-96-26
your ref 13 July 2001
date

103/13/01

Dear Mr Puri

Visit of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry

I have been discussing with a colleague in the British Library Reader Admissions Office how we can best ensure the minimum of delay in issuing reader's passes to the members of the Justice Mukherjee Commission visiting the India Office Records on 18 July. The application form for a reader's pass is now available as a printable form on our web-site <http://www.bl.uk> which can be located by selecting 'visiting the library in person' under the heading 'please select one of the following options' which is on our home page. On the next screen, select 'admissions' and on the next screen select 'applying for admission'. If a form can be filled out in advance for each member of the Commission and faxed to me, I can arrange for their details to be entered in our reader admissions system before they arrive, and on 18 July it will then only be necessary to take their photographs and check their means of identity (e.g. passport).

I am copying this to Sri P K Sengupta as I am not sure which of you is better placed to arrange for the forms to be filled in and sent to me by fax.

Yours sincerely

Penny Brook

Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail: penny.brook@bl.uk

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA ROSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 262-2005
Secretary - 252-2761
Officer on Special Duty - 252-2765
Office - 252 2760/68

(161)

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol II)/208(61)

Calcutta, dated, July 10 2001

From
Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
Sri H.S. Puri
Deputy High Commissioner
India House Aldwich,
London WC2B4NA

Subject : Visit of a team of the Commission to London to study
the declassified records/files, etc. at British Library -
Issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the members of the team.

Sir,

In continuation of the Commission's Letter No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205 dated July 9, 2001, sent by FAX, I am directed to send herewith a copy of the letter dated September 21, 2000 of Mrs. P.A. Brook, Head of India Office Records, addressed to Sri S.K. Mondal, the High Commission of India, India House, London.

I am directed to request you to kindly make necessary arrangements for issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the following members of the team of the Commission :-

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna De.

The team of the Commission led by the Chairman will arrive at the India Office Library at 9-30 hrs. on 18.7.2001. It will be highly appreciated if all necessary arrangements for issue of Readers' Pass are made before that.

I am further to request you to kindly make it convenient to ascertain from the British Library the cost of obtaining Micro-fiche published of the records.

Yours faithfully

P. K. Sengupta
(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Encl: One.

97
Coun (P21)
DHC / Coun (P02)

(162)

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Mr S K Mandal
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7830
Telephone 020 7412 7830
Fax 020 7412 7640/7858
E-mail oic-enquiries@bluk

our ref OIC2-109-96-26

your ref 21 September 2000
date

Dear Mr Mandal

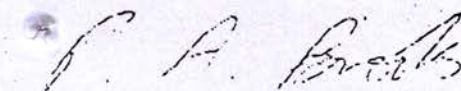
Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Shaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series - one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail penny.brook@bluk

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA ROSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 262-2035
Secretary - 252-2761
Officer on
Special Duty - 252-2765
Officer - 252-2760/63

163

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol II)/208(61)

Calcutta, dated, July 10 2001

From
Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
Sri H.S. Puri,
Deputy High Commissioner
India House Aldwich,
London WC2B4NA

Subject : Visit of a team of the Commission to London to study
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Issue of Readers' Pass in favour of the members of the team.

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Yours faithfully

P. K. Sengupta
(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Encl: One.

97
Coun (P21)
DHC / Coun (P02)

(164)

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Mr S K Mandal
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7830
Telephone 020 7412 7830
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858
E-mail oio-enquiries@bl.uk

out of (020) 2-109-96-26
your of
date 21 September 2000

Dear Mr Mandal

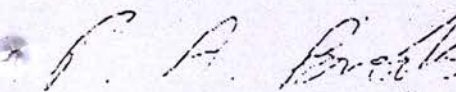
Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Slaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series - one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely


Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail penny.brook@bl.uk

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
 FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
 'B' Block, (Third Floor)
 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252-2835
 Secretary - 252-2767
 Officer on
 Special Duty - 252-2765
 Office - 252-2766/68

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
 Sri H.S. Puri
 Deputy High Commissioner
 India House Aldwich, London
 WC2B4NA

Fax No. 004420 78364331

Subject : Visit of the Commission to U.K. to study the declassified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witnesses including Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Toye.

Sir,

I am directed to request you to kindly refer to your d.o. letter no. Lon/Pol./103/17/00 d 27.2.2001 addressed to Sri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (AMS and CNV), Ministry of External Aff New Delhi, on the aforesaid subject, a copy of which was sent to this Commission by Sri Jayant Pr alongwith his d.o. lettaer no. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI dt. 8.3.2001, and to say that during its visit to London Commission will study documents and records relating to its sphere of inquiry at the British Library (other libraries/archives/offices, if brought to its notice) on and from 18.7.2001. During its stay, Commission intends to record the evidence of Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Toye and such o persons as the Commission may deem necessary.

In that context I am directed to request you to kindly contact Lord Peter Archer and Col. H Toye before the arrival of the Commission to ascertain their convenience so that immediately after ar in London it may fix date(s) for recording their evidence. The addresses of Lord Peter Archer and Hugh Toye are :

7 Old School Court, Wrybury
 Staines, Middlesex T.W. 19 5 B P

Col. Hugh Toye
 5 Farm Close Lane, Wheatley
 Oxford OX33 IUG

I am also directed to request you to kindly spare a competent officer of your office to act Liaison Officer of the Commission during its stay.

I am further directed to send herewith a copy of a notice which may kindly be given wide publi in any manner as you may deem fit to enable the persons interested to respond to the same.

I am directed to request you to kindly make necessary arrangements for the issue of British Lib Readers' Pass in favour of the following :-

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, Chairman
2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

Enclo: One

Yours faithfully,

(P.K. Sengupta)
 Secretary

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205/1(4)

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

1. Sri Jayanta Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001.
2. Ms. Sangita Gairala, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

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Secretary -- 252-2767

Officer on

Special Duty -- 252-2765

Office -- 252-2766/68

O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/206

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

NOTICE

A one-man Commission with Justice Monoj Kumar Mukherjee, a retired Judge of Supreme Court of India, as Chairman, has been set up by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments connected therewith including :

- (a) Whether Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is dead or alive;
- (b) If he is dead, whether he died in the plane crash, as alleged;
- (c) Whether the ashes in the Japanese temple are ashes of Netaji;
- (d) Whether he has died in any other manner at any other place and, if so, when and how;
- (e) If he is alive, in respect of his whereabouts.

The Commission has further been asked to examine the manner in which the exercise of scrutiny of Publications touching upon the question of death or otherwise of Netaji can be undertaken by the Central Government in the circumstances.

The Commission will be visiting London from 17.07.2001 to study the declassified documents and records relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the British Library in London and also to record evidence of persons having knowledge and/or possessing documents relating to the aforesaid points of inquiry.

Persons acquainted with or, having knowledge of facts and circumstances relating to the aforesaid points of inquiry and wishing to assist the Commission in making the inquiry may contact the Secretary of the Commission or Mr. R.K. Kalra, First Secretary (Protocol), High Commission of India, London (Protocol Wing), India House, Aldwych, London, WC-2B 4 NA, on any working day within seven days from 18.07.2001 and furnish their statements supported with documents, if any, relevant to the aforesaid points of inquiry to the Commission.

The address of the Commission in London will be :-

Crowne Plaza London

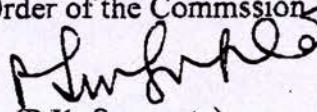
St. James Hotel & Suites

Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF

Phone No. 020 7834 6655

Fax No. 020 7828 5909

By Order of the Commission


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Delhi 110 001

3. Ms. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001
4. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

(P.K. Sengupta)

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D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

To
 Sri H.S. Puri
 Deputy High Commissioner
 India House Aldwich, London
 WC2B4NA

Fax No. 004420 78364331

Subject : Visit of the Commission to U.K. to study the declassified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witnesses including Lord Peter Archer and Col. Hugh Toye.

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I am further directed to send herewith a copy of a notice which may kindly be given wide publicity in any manner as you may deem fit to enable the persons interested to respond to the same.

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2. Sri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary
3. Ms. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director, National Archives of India.

Encl: One

Yours faithfully,

(P.K. Sengupta)
 Secretary

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/205/1(4)

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

1. Sri Jayanta Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001.
2. Mr. Sanjiv Chandra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi 110 001.

Urgent on file pl
W. 9/7
Ampt

87
DHC, (as per), FS (Per)

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
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D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/206

Calcutta, dated, July 9 2001

NOTICE

A one-man Commission with Justice Monoj Kumar Mukherjee, a retired Judge of Supreme Court of India, as Chairman, has been set up by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments connected therewith including :

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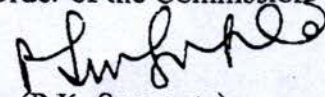
Persons acquainted with or, having knowledge of facts and circumstances relating to the aforesaid points of inquiry and wishing to assist the Commission in making the inquiry may contact the Secretary of the Commission or Mr. R.K. Kalra, First Secretary (Protocol), High Commission of India, London (Protocol Wing), India House, Aldwych, London, WC-2B 4 NA, on any working day within seven days from 18.07.2001 and furnish their statements supported with documents, if any, relevant to the aforesaid points of inquiry to the Commission.

The address of the Commission in London will be :-

Crown Plaza London
St. James Hotel & Suites
Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF

Phone No. 020 7834 6655
Fax No. 020 7828 5909

By Order of the Commission


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Delhi 110 001

3. Ms. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001
4. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

(P.K. Sengupta)

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

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Secretary - 252-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 252-2765
Office - 252-2766/68

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/185

Calcutta, dated, July 3 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary

Dear

I am directed to request you to refer to the Commission's fax message dated 2.7.2001 regarding postponement of the visit to the U.K. scheduled to commence from 7.7.2001. Commission had no alternative but to postpone the visit as necessary approval and financial sanction had not been received till then. Now from the Fax message from Sri B.R. Dhimo, Under Secretary of your Ministry, received at this end at about 6-45 P.M. yesterday, it appears that the competent authority has approved the proposed visit. You must appreciate that this fax message is not sufficient for going ahead for the visit.

For drawal of advance for purchase of air tickets and obtaining visa, order of approval of the tour and financial sanction are essential. In any case, it is not possible to stick to the earlier schedule which has already been postponed with intimation to all concerned.

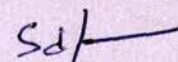
We need confirmation from you regarding entitlement of the Hon'ble Chairman and myself to air travel. It is presumed that the Hon'ble Chairman is entitled to First Class. As regards myself, it is presumed, as per express stipulation in the annexure II to the letter dated June 10, 1999 of the Hon'ble Chairman to Sri Nikhil Kumar, Special Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi 110 001, I am entitled to the class to which I was entitled till my superannuation as Principal Secretary in the scale of Rs.22,400-525-25,000/-. It may please be confirmed that I am entitled to Club/Business class of Air India.

Further steps for rescheduling the tour will be taken after receiving formal order of approval, financial sanction indicating the rates of daily allowance, contingencies, etc. admissible and confirmation regarding entitlement to class in Air India.

This is extremely urgent.

With warm regards,

Yours


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

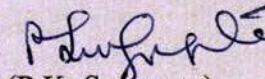
Ms. Sangita Gairola,
Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of Home Affairs (IS),
North Block, New Delhi 110 001.

D.O.No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/185/1

Calcutta, dated, July 23 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

1. Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of India, London
(Fax: 0044 20 78364331) for favour of information
2. Shri S. Singh, S.O., JMCI, New Delhi c/o. Shri V.P. Bhatia - for information. He is requested to follow up the matter and report the latest developments.


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252-2835
Secretary - 252-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 252-2765
Office - 252-2763/68

No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/189. Calcutta, dated, the 04.07.2001.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary

To : Ms. Sangita Gairola,
Joint Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Home Affairs (IS),
North Block,
New Delhi-110001.

Madam,

I am to state that Office Order No.I/12014/6/2001-IS(D.III) dated July 3, 2001 of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, sanctioning visit of the Commission to the U.K. has been received by FAX on July 3, 2001, before receipt of which the said visit had to be postponed in view of the facts and circumstances stated in D.O. No.JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/185 dated July 3, 2001 of the Secretary addressed to you with a copy endorsed to the High Commission of India, London, besides another.

In the context of above office Order I am directed to state as follows :-

- (a) that the visit to the U.K. be rescheduled from July 16, 2001 to 6th August, 2001 including the journey time;
- (b) that having regard to the facts that Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of National Archives, in his D.O. No.25-2(9)/2001-CC dated July 3, 2001 received by FAX today has expressed his inability to accompany the Commission to London due to his serious eye troubles and has requested the Commission to accept Smt. Krishna Dey, Assistant Director of Archives, National Archives of India, as his substitute for the purpose of the aforesaid visit and that his such request has been acceded to, necessary orders may be obtained in this regard,
- (c) that as regards the proposal regarding purchase of air-tickets through the Exchange Vouchers of Air-India, it may kindly be noted that as the Commission has no Exchange Voucher facilities for availing AIR India Tickets, the Commission may be allowed to draw advance of cash for purchase of air-tickets for direct flight of the Chairman and the Secretary by Air-India from Calcutta to London on July 16, 2001;

contd...P.2.

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
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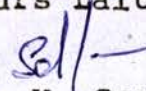
- : 2 : -

No. JMCI/

Calcutta, dated, the

- (d) that fees for Visa is to be borne by the Commission from its fund;
- (e) that necessary Order approving the rescheduled tour programme, drawal of advance of cash for purchase of air-tickets, payment of fees for Visa of the U.K. from Commission's fund may kindly be conveyed as quickly as possible to avoid further postponement of the tour programme and rescheduling the same afresh; and
- (f) that a copy of this letter be sent forthwith to all other authorities concerned including the High Commission of India, London for information and necessary action.

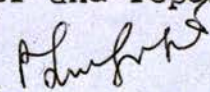
Yours faithfully,


(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/189/1(5) Dated : 04.07.2001.

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to :-

- 1) The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India, South Block, New Delhi-110001,
- 2) Mrs. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of
External Affairs, Government of India, South Block,
New Delhi-110001.
- 3) Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of
India, London, U.K., (FAX 0044 20 78364331),
- 4) Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, National
, Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi-110001,
- 5) Shri S.N. Singh, Section Officer, JMCI, New Delhi,
C/o. Shri V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary to the Government of
India, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110001.
He is requested to follow up the matter and report the
latest development.


(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

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No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary

To
The Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi - 110 001

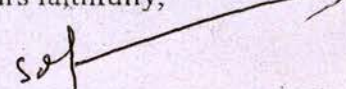
Subject : Visit of the Commission to London for study of files in the British Library
and examination of certain witnesses in U.K. from 7.07.2001 to 27.07.2001

Sir,

Enclosed please find a copy of the fax message dated June 29, 2001 received at about 5-30 P.M. on the same day from Mr. V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, which is self-explanatory.

In view of the position revealed by the aforesaid fax message, the Commission is left with no alternative but to postpone the above-mentioned proposed visit. Revised programme of visit will be communicated to you after receiving necessary sanction from the Ministry of Home Affairs and complying with all formalities for the proposed visit. Indian High Commission in London may kindly be informed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

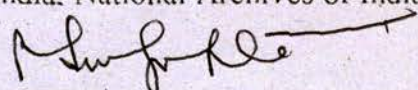

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181/1(5)

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

1. Mr. Vidyasagar Verma, Joint Secretary (Coord.), Govt. of India, Ministry of External Affairs, Coordination Division - in reference to his office memorandum no. PC-927/JS(Coord.)/2001 dated June 28, 2001.
2. Mrs. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001,
3. Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of India, London in reference to his fax message dated 25.6.2001 addressed to Foreign, New Delhi.
4. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs (IS), North Block, New Delhi 110 001.
5. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, Govt. of India, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

(75)

FAX MESSAGE

(FAX NO. 033-252-2765)

1 (1001) (1001) 1010 1111
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

* * * * *

New Delhi, the 29th June, 2001.

To:

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
CALCUTTA - 700 087.

Subject: Visit of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
to the U.K. from 7-28 July, 2001 to study the de-
classified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine
certain persons as witnesses.

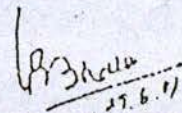
* * *

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 25.6.2001 addressed to Smt. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs on the subject noted above. In this connection it may be stated that the required political clearance in respect of the team of the Commission visiting U.K. has since been received from the Ministry of External Affairs vide their O.M.No. PC-927/JS(Coord)/2001 dated June 28, 2001. A copy of this O.M. is enclosed for ready reference. It is requested that the guidelines mentioned in para 3 of this O.M. may kindly be observed.

2. As regards necessary sanction for the proposed visit of the team of the Commission, it may be stated that the same is under process and has been sent to the Ministry of Finance for necessary approval. As soon as the required approval is received, the Commission will be informed about the same immediately. In this connection, it is also requested that as the issue is time-bound and lot of follow-up is required at personal level, it would be appreciated if you could depute some person who can follow-up the case at various levels for obtaining the required sanction and subsequent issue thereof.

Yours faithfully,



(V.P. BHATTIA)

UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

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176

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary

To
The Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi - 110 001

Subject : Visit of the Commission to London for study of files in the British Library
and examination of certain witnesses in U.K. from 7.07.2001 to 27.07.2001

Sir,

Enclosed please find a copy of the fax message dated June 29, 2001 received at about 5-30 P.M. on the same day from Mr. V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, which is self-explanatory.

In view of the position revealed by the aforesaid fax message, the Commission is left with no alternative but to postpone the above-mentioned proposed visit. Revised programme of visit will be communicated to you after receiving necessary sanction from the Ministry of Home Affairs and complying with all formalities for the proposed visit. Indian High Commission in London may kindly be informed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

~~Special B~~

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181/1(5)

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to :-

- FAX** ✓
1. Mr. Vidyasagar Verma, Joint Secretary (Coord.), Govt. of India, Ministry of External Affairs, Coordination Division - in reference to his office memorandum no. PC-927/JS(Coord,)/2001 dated June 28, 2001.
 2. Mrs. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001,
 3. Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of India, London in reference to his fax message dated 25.6.2001 addressed to Foreign, New Delhi.
 4. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs (IS), North Block, New Delhi 110 001.
 5. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, Govt. of India, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

[Signature]
(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

(177)

FAX MESSAGE

(FAX NO. 033-252-2765)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

* * * * *

New Delhi, the 29th June, 2001.

To

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
CALCUTTA - 700 087.

Subject: Visit of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
to the U.K. from 7-28 July, 2001 to study the de-
classified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine
certain persons as witnesses.

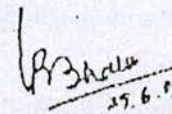
* * *

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 25.6.2001 addressed to Smt. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs on the subject noted above. In this connection it may be stated that the required political clearance in respect of the team of the Commission visiting U.K. has since been received from the Ministry of External Affairs vide their O.M.No. PC-927/JS(Coord)/2001 dated June 28, 2001. A copy of this O.M. is enclosed for ready reference. It is requested that the guidelines mentioned in para 3 of this O.M. may kindly be observed.

2. As regards necessary sanction for the proposed visit of the team of the Commission, it may be stated that the same is under process and has been sent to the Ministry of Finance for necessary approval. As soon as the required approval is received, the Commission will be informed about the same immediately. In this connection, it is also requested that as the issue is time-bound and lot of follow-up is required at personal level, it would be appreciated if you could depute some person who can follow-up the case at various levels for obtaining the required sanction and subsequent issue thereof.

Yours faithfully,



(V.P. BHATIA)

UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman -- 252-2835
Secretary -- 252-2767
Officer on
Special Duty -- 252-2763
Office -- 252-2766/68

78

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/36(Vol.II)/181

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary

To
The Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi -- 110 001

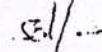
Subject : Visit of the Commission to London for study of files in the British Library
and examination of certain witnesses in U.K. from 7.07.2001 to 27.07.2001

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Yours faithfully,



(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

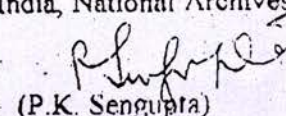
Special Point

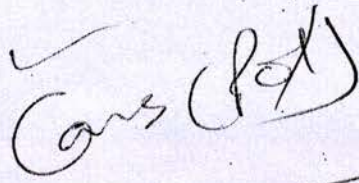
No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/36(Vol.II)/181/1(5)

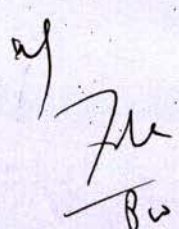
Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

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1. Mr. Vidyasagar Verma, Joint Secretary (Coord.), Govt. of India, Ministry of External Affairs, Coordination Division in reference to his office memorandum no. PC-927/IS(Coord.)/2001 dated June 28, 2001.
2. Mrs. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001,
3. Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of India, London in reference to his fax message dated 25.6.2001 addressed to Foreign, New Delhi.
4. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs (IS), North Block, New Delhi 110 001.
5. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, Govt. of India, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary





JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

'B' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman -- 252-2835

Secretary -- 252-2767

Officer on

Special Duty -- 252-2765

Office -- 252-2766/68

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

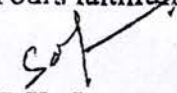
From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
SecretaryTo
The Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi - 110 001Subject : **Visit of the Commission to London for study of files in the British Library
and examination of certain witnesses in U.K. from 7.07.2001 to 27.07.2001**

Sir,

Enclosed please find a copy of the fax message dated June 29, 2001 received at about 5-30 P.M. on the same day from Mr. V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, which is self-explanatory.

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Yours faithfully,

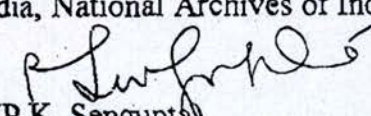

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181/1(5)

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

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2. Mrs. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001,
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4. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs (IS), North Block, New Delhi 110 001.
5. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, Govt. of India, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

180



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Political)

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

Lon/Pol/01

June 26, 2001

Dear Graham .

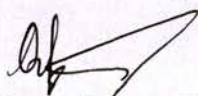
Apropos our telephone conversation, this is to inform you that the Chairman and the Secretary of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry now propose to visit the UK for a period of three weeks from 7.7.2001. During this period, they will study the files/records in the British Library pertaining to Netaji.

In addition, Dr. S.C. Sarkar, Director General of National Archives will also accompany the Commission to obtain microfilms/micro-fiches of the relevant files and documents.

I would be grateful for your usual assistance in facilitating access to the records to the members of the Commission(Justice Mukherjee and Mr. P.K. Sengupta) and Dr. Sarkar.

With warm regards .

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Graham Shaw,
Deputy Director,
British Library's Oriental
and Indian Office Collections
LONDON (Fax 74127858)

*p7 file
forwarded*



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

MOST IMMEDIATE

181

**Narinder Chauhan(Smt.)
Director(CNV)**

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI

June 1, 2001

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your fax message dated 02.05.2001 regarding the visit of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to U.K. The Commission proposes to visit UK for a period of three weeks from 07.07.2001 to study the files/records of the British Library and examine witnesses in London. The team of the Commission, as earlier intimated, will consist of the Hon'ble Chairman and the Secretary and also Dr. S.C.Sarkar, Director General of National Archives.

The Commission has desired that our High Commission in London may arrange accommodation for the team of the Commission and also for Dr. S.C.Sarkar. A copy of the Commission's self-explanatory letter received by us in this regard is enclosed for your information and necessary action.

with personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

N. Chauhan
(Narinder Chauhan)

Imp

Please coordinate this.

✓
**Shri H.S.Puri,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London(U.K.)**

Hebros
20/6
Gurus (Pal)



4312/2nd/11
29/5

182

Pradyot Kumar Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
For inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'B' Block (3rd floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta 700 087

BY SPEED POST

(87)

Office ☎ : 033-252-2765/68
Fax : 033-252-2765
e-mail : jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

D.O. NO. JMCI/DOC(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)84

Calcutta, dated the 18th May 2001

Dear *Smt. Chauhan*,

Please refer to your d.o. letter No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI dated 10.05.01 regarding the visit of the Commission to the U.K. to study the files/records at the British Library and to examine the witnesses who may be available. The Commission proposes to visit the U.K. for the purpose for a period of three weeks from 7.7.2001. The team of the Commission, as earlier intimated, will consist of the Hon'ble Chairman and the Secretary. As I have already informed earlier, Dr. S.C. Sarkar, Director General of National Archives, Govt. of India, will also be going to London and he will help the Commission study the files/records at the British Library and obtain Micro-Films/Micro-Fiches of the relevant files and the documents. Obviously, Dr. Sarkar will also need accommodation in London. In fact, he has requested the Commission to take necessary action to arrange his accommodation in London to enable him to help the Commission.

I am, therefore, directed to request you to kindly arrange accommodation for the team of the Commission and also for Dr. S.C. Sarkar.

The Ministry of Home Affairs have already been requested to issue a proper sanction indicating Head of Account to which the expenditure for accommodation, transport etc. for the Hon'ble Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission is to be debited. You will be informed of the sanction as soon as the same is received by the Commission

Refers

Yours

sincerely,

Pradyot Kumar Sengupta

To
Smt. Narinder Chauhan,
Director (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India,
South Block
New Delhi 110 001

183



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
LONDON

Political Wing

FAX MESSAGE

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

Number of pages : 1
(including this page)

To: Foreign New Delhi

Director (CNV) from Counsellor(Pol)

Refyr letter No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. VI dated June 1, 2001 regarding visit of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to UK for a period of three weeks from 7th July, 2001.

We will arrange accommodation for the Chairman and Secretary of the Commission as well as for Dr. Dr. S.C. Sarkar, DG, National Archives. However, kindly send the sanction as soon as possible.

We would also need sanction for hiring of transport for the Commission members. Currently, a hired car costs approximately £ 200/- per day for an eight-hour period.

It has not been indicated whether the Commission is contacting the witnesses directly or the High Commission is expected to contact them, as was done the last time the Commission was expected to visit. Grateful for a clarification at the earliest.

Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature
(Vikas Swarup)
Counsellor(Pol)
25.6.2001

Forwarded

(184)



CRASH

CRASH

 विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
 MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 NEW DELHI

Indembassy/Hicomind Vienna, Brussels, Nicosia, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Paris, Bonn, Athens, Dublin, Rome, Malta, The Hague, Oslo, Lisbon, Madrid, Stockholm, Berne, London

DCM from Director (EW)

Reference General Musharraf's assumption of office as President and dissolution of suspended assemblies.

Missions may send by return fax to 3794145, reactions of Government, Official statements etc of your respective countries to this development. Our Mission in Brussels may also send us the reaction of the European Union.

Regards, for, *any*
 Radhika Lokesh
 Director (EW)
 21st June 2001

Please speak.

Helena
27/6

Conns (Holl)

290
Hc/DHe/Conns/802)

Me
PO

FROM: JMCI

FAX NO. : 091 033 216 2765

JUL. 02 2001 02:59PM P6

10:091 033 216 2765

FAX NO.

FAX MESSAGE

(FAX NO. 033-252-2765)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

New Delhi, the 29th June, 2001.

To

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
CALCUTTA - 700 087.

Subject: Visit of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
to the U.K. from 7-28 July, 2001 to study the de-
classified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine
certain persons as witnesses.

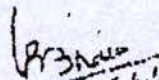
* * *

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 25.6.2001 addressed
to Smt. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home
Affairs on the subject noted above. In this connection it may
be stated that the required political clearance in respect of
the team of the Commission visiting U.K. has since been received
from the Ministry of External Affairs vide their O.M.No. PC-927/
JS(Coord)/2001 dated June 28, 2001. A copy of this O.M. is
enclosed for ready reference. It is requested that the
guidelines mentioned in para 3 of this O.M. may kindly be
observed.

2. As regards necessary sanction for the proposed visit of
the Commission, it may be stated that the same is
under process and has been sent to the Ministry of Finance for
necessary approval. As soon as the required approval is
received, the Commission will be informed about the same
immediately. In this connection, it is also requested that as
the issue is time-bound and lot of follow-up is required at
personal level, it would be appreciated if you could designate some
person who can follow-up the case at various levels for
obtaining the required sanction and subsequent issue thereof.

Yours faithfully,



(V.P. BHATIA)

UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

File
pw

SHRIVIKAS SWARUP

POLITICAL

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

COUNSELLOR

FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

'B' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 252-2835
 Secretary - 252-2767
 Officer on Special Duty - 252-2765
 Office - 252-2765/68

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
 Secretary

To
 The Secretary to the Government of India
 Ministry of External Affairs
 South Block
 New Delhi - 110 001

Subject : Visit of the Commission to London for study of files in the British Library
 and examination of certain witnesses in U.K. from 7.07.2001 to 27.07.2001

Sir,

Enclosed please find a copy of the fax message dated June 29, 2001 received at about 5-30 P.M. on the same day from Mr. V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, which is self-explanatory.

In view of the position revealed by the aforesaid fax message, the Commission is left with no alternative but to postpone the above-mentioned proposed visit. Revised programme of visit will be communicated to you after receiving necessary sanction from the Ministry of Home Affairs and complying with all formalities for the proposed visit. Indian High Commission in London may kindly be informed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature)
 (P.K. Sengupta)
 Secretary

No. JMCI/Doc(For)/99-2000/56(Vol.II)/181/1(5)

Calcutta, dated, July 2, 2001

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2. Mrs. Narinder Chauhan, Director (CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001,
3. Mr. Vikas Swarup, Counsellor (Pol.), High Commission of India, London in reference to his fax message dated 25.6.2001 addressed to Foreign, New Delhi.
4. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs (IS), North Block, New Delhi 110 001.
5. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, Govt. of India, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

(Signature)
 (P.K. Sengupta)
 Secretary



MOST IMMEDIATE
BY SPEED POST

187

Narinder Chauhan(Smt.)
Director(CNV)

103/13/00

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI

May 10, 2001

Please refer to your letter No. JMC/Doc(for)/99-2000/56/59 dated 4th May, 2001 regarding proposed visit of the Commission to the UK addressed to Smt. Sangita Gairola, JS(IS), MHA and copy endorsed to us.

As proposed by the Commission, the High Commission of India, London will be requested by us to arrange accommodation and local transport during the Commission's visit to London. However, to enable HCI, London to make these arrangements, a proper sanction, indicating the Heads of Account to which the expenditure in this regard is to be debited, is required to be issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs endorsing a copy thereof to HCI, London. It is, therefore requested that appropriate action may be taken in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

(Narinder Chauhan)

Copy (Pali)
Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Copy for information and necessary action to :

1. Shri H.S.Puri, DHG, High Commission of India, London, for information.
2. Smt. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary(IS), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110011.

N. Chauhan
(Narinder Chauhan)

188

Fax Message

3rd April, 2001

Director (CNV)'s Office
Tel: 301-4070/3015716
Fax: 379-4587

From: Foreign New Delhi
To: Hicomind London
(fax No. 836-4331)

DHC from Director (CNV)

Reference Fax of 1st May, 2001.

103/17/00

Contents conveyed to Shri Sengupta, who was inclined for postponement. Shall confirm on receipt of written communication from him.

with personal regards, *N. Chauhan*
(Narinder Chauhan)

Please discuss
before
Gross (P/L) 4/5
y DHC



MOST IMMEDIATE
By Speed Post

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

189

Narinder Chauhan
Director(CNV)

103/17/00

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

April 30, 2001

Dear Shri Sengupta,

Please refer to your letter No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/649 dated March 27, 2001 and in continuation of my letter of even number dated 27th April, 2001, regarding request to the High Commission of India, London to contact some eminent personalities whom the Commission wishes to examine as witnesses during their forthcoming visit to the U.K.

In the meantime we have received a detailed fax message from Shri H.S.Puri, Deputy High Commissioner, High Commission of India, London on the above subject. A copy of the same, with enclosures, is enclosed for your information and appropriate action.

Yours sincerely,

(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
Calcutta.

✓ Copy to : Shri H.S.Puri, DHC, HCI, London for information

with personal regards,

(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)

9/5
Gans (P)

103/17/00

190

Fax Message

9th May, 2001

Director (CNV)'s Office
Tel: 301-4070/3015716
Fax: 379-4587

From: Foreign New Delhi
To: Hicomind London
(fax No. 836-4331)

DHC from Director (CNV)

Reference my earlier fax regarding visit of team from Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry.

It has been confirmed that the visit to London scheduled for May 10, 2001 stands postponed. The Commission is drawing fresh programme to visit UK and the same would be communicated to you as and when is available in this Ministry.

with regards,

N. Chauhan
(Narinder Chauhan)

✓ 49
DHC / FS protocol

①
9/5
Gurus (Pall)



1/3
(191)
भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

Total No. of Pages - 3

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

24 April, 2001

FAX MESSAGE

From: Hicomind London

To: Foreign New Delhi

JS(AMS & CNV) from DHC

I am writing in continuation of my letter of April 20 regarding the proposed visit of the Chairman and Secretary of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to UK. In my letter I had indicated that of the three individuals whom the Commission wishes to examine, Col Hugh Toy has already conveyed that he would not be available in London on the proposed dates. We are separately trying to ascertain the contact particulars of Sir John Figgens and would appreciate if any information that the Commission has about him could be shared with us.

We have today received a letter from Sir Malcolm Rifkind that he too will be out of London from May 10-18, 2001. He has also indicated that he may not be in a position to provide any assistance to the Commission. A copy of his letter of April 18 is attached.

We have also received a letter from Lord Archer conveying that he would be happy to meet the Commission on the afternoon of May 14, 15 or 17. A copy of his letter of April 20 is also attached.

I would appreciate if you could convey this information to the Commission and check if they would like to reschedule their visit in view of the fact that two of the three concerned individuals will be unavailable on the proposed dates.

With best wishes,
(Signature)
(H.S. Puri)

W 7/16
PW

TW

66

From: The Rt Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind KCMG QC

Eskgrove House
Inveresk
East Lothian
EH21 7TD
TEL. 0131-665-8811 FAX. 0131-665-8118
rifkind.malcolm.m@bhp.com.au

3/3
192

18 April 2001

Mr H S Puri
Acting High Commissioner
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

Dear Mr Puri,


Thank you for your letter with regard to the visit of the Commission of Inquiry investigating the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Sadly, I will not be in London between 10 and 18 May as we are expecting to be in the middle of our General Election campaign, and I will need to be in Edinburgh throughout that time.

In any event, I do not think that I could be of any assistance to the Commission, as I have no personal information or knowledge in relation to the matters they are investigating.

I am sorry to have to send you an unhelpful response but I hope you will understand the reasons.

Kind regards and best wishes.

 sincerely,
Malcolm Rifkind

From: The Rt. Hon. The Lord Archer of Sandwell, Q.C.

207
Tel: ~~01784~~ 219 3223



House of Lords
London SW1A 0PW

2/3
193

The Acting High Commissioner
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London WC2B 4NA

20th April 2001

Your ref: Lon/Pol/103/17/00

In Mr. Per,

Thank you for your letter relating to the forthcoming visit of the Commission of Inquiry into the disappearance of Chandra Bose.

I would be happy to meet the Chairman and Secretary, and I could be available at, say, 4pm on the afternoon of 14th, 15th, or 17th May.

May I suggest that we have tea together in the House of Lords on one of those days.

If someone would care to ring me on this number in the House of Lords or, if no-one is available here, at my home number, 01784 483136, we can arrange the details.

Yr sincerely,
R. Archer

From: The Rt Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind KCMG QC

Eskgrove House
Inveresk
East Lothian
EH21 7TD
TEL. 0131-665-8811 FAX. 0131-665-8118
rifkind.malcolm.m@bhp.com.au

194

18 April 2001

Mr H S Puri
Acting High Commissioner
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

man
Please discuss with previous papers.
disturb
23/4
Gms (Ptd)

Dear Mr Puri,

Thank you for your letter with regard to the visit of the Commission of Inquiry investigating the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Sadly, I will not be in London between 10 and 18 May as we are expecting to be in the middle of our General Election campaign, and I will need to be in Edinburgh throughout that time.

In any event, I do not think that I could be of any assistance to the Commission, as I have no personal information or knowledge in relation to the matters they are investigating.

I am sorry to have to send you an unhelpful response but I hope you will understand the reasons.

Kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,
Malcolm Rifkind



172/DHC/01

3/5

204/c (Pm)/01
3/5~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
MOST IMMEDIATE
By Speed Postविदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI211/P22/01
915/01

103/12/00

(195)

Narinder Chauhan
Director(CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

April 27, 2001

Dear Shri Sengupta,

Please refer to your letter No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/649 dated March 27, 2001 requesting the High Commission of India, London to contact some eminent personalities whom the Commission wishes to examine as witnesses during their forthcoming visit to the U.K.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of self-explanatory letter alongwith its enclosure received from Deputy High Commissioner, High Commission of India, London for your information and appropriate action.

Yours sincerely,

(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
Calcutta.

✓ Copy to : Shri H.S.Puri, DHC, HCI, London for information

with personal regards,

(Smt. Narinder Chauhan)

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

103/17100

196

Mr Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol)
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
LONDON WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB
Telephone 020 7412 7839
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC/GWS/TJ
your ref
date 27 April 2001

Dear Vikas

Thank you for your letter of 18 April confirming that the Chairperson and Secretary of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry will now be visiting the British Library for a period of 10 days from 10th May to look at the Indian Political Intelligence files relating to Netaji.

I confirm that we will be delighted to welcome them both on that date. Could you please provide the full names of both parties so that we can arrange for the issue of temporary readers' tickets to take place without delay – please ask them to bring along their passports as I.D.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

(G W Shaw) Graham

G W Shaw
Director

For info: I can see the
common members decide to
reschedule. I will inform
Graham accordingly.

YJS

BMG/or

Yes, please.

Graham

Cousc/Paff

John take

File

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:

Chairman - 216-2835
Secretary - 216-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 216-2765
Office - 216-2765/68

197

No. JMCI/ DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/36

Calcutta, dated, the April 20, 2001.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary

To : Shri H.S. Puri,
Deputy High Commissioner,
The High Commission of India,
India House, Aldwych,
LONDON WC2B 4NA.

103/12/00

Sub : Proposed visit of the Commission to
the U.K. to study the declassified
records pertaining to Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose at the British Library
and to examine certain persons as
witnesses. -----

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's letter No.

JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/649 dated March 27, 2001 on the above noted
subject and to request you to kindly send your reply in confirmation
as solicited in the aforesaid letter of the Commission since the
Commission proposes to visit U.K. from May 10, 2001 for 10(ten)
consecutive working days to accomplish the work of the Commission as
indicated in the aforesaid letter of the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/36(3)

Dated :

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to :

1. Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India,
South Block, New Delhi 110001.
2. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives,
Government of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110001.
3. Smt. Sangeeta Gairola, Joint Secretary (IS)
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India,
North Block, New Delhi 110001.

(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary



103/17/2

198

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

LONDON

FAX MESSAGE

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

Number of pages : 1
(including this page)

To: Foreign New Delhi

From: Hicomind London

Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV) from DHC

Continuation of my fax of last week regarding the visit by the Chairperson and Secretary of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to London, beginning May 10.

Since two of the witnesses that the Commission wishes to interview in London will not be available during the period of the Commission's visit, I had requested you to check whether the Commission members would consider postponing their visit to a later date. Grateful if you could expedite the Commission's response in view of the shortage of time.

In case the visit is taking place as scheduled, kindly let us know by return fax the full itinerary of the Commission members. We also need to know whether accommodation and transport arrangements for the Commission members need to be made by us. If so, I presume we would be receiving a sanction covering both these items.

(H.S. Puri)

Deputy High Commissioner

1.5.2001

CCP/2/1/1
He
PW



H.S.Puri
Deputy High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

199

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

April 20, 2001

Jean Layant,

Kindly refer to letter No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/649 dated March 27, 2001 from the Secretary of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (a copy of which was endorsed to you) requesting the High Commission to contact some eminent personalities whom the Commission wishes to examine as witnesses during the forthcoming visit of the Chairperson and Secretary of the Commission to the UK.

2. In pursuance of the Commission's request, I had written to all three individuals mentioned in the aforementioned letter. I have now received a reply from Col. Hugh Toy which is enclosed herewith.

3. As you will note, Col. Toy will, himself, not be available during the period of the Commission's visit. He has, however, provided some extremely useful extracts from an updated version of his original book, which is due to be published by Allied Publishers in New Delhi. I am enclosing these extracts, but would flag your attention to Col. Toy's observation that the copyright belongs to Allied Publishers and their authority would have to be sought for publication of the extracts.

4. Col. Toy has also suggested the name of Sir John Figgens as a possible witness since he is reported to have interviewed the Japanese survivors of the aircraft crew, including the Captain Nonagaki. Whilst we are trying to ascertain the whereabouts of Sir John Figgens, I would appreciate any information that the Commission might have regarding him.

200

5. I would be grateful if you could convey the above, including enclosures, to Shri P.K. Sengupta as we cannot enter into correspondence of a confidential nature directly with the Commission.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

H.S. Puri
(H.S. Puri)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI

an/wn

5, FARM CLOSE LANE
WHEATLEY
OXFORD OX33 1UG
01865 872500

12. diseng
Guns (all) for

201

16 April 01

Dear High Commissioner,

Thank you for your letter about Justice Mukherjee's enquiry. I should much like to have responded positively although I have absolutely nothing new to say. However I shall be abroad for the whole period you mention - long standing arrangements that could not be changed now.

In a largely updated version of my original book, which has been with Allied Publishers in New Delhi for publication since 1996, I have summarised all the detail available on pp 213-216, which I enclose with two pages of notes to those

pages. The copyright ~~was~~ belongs to Allied Publishers so that their authority would have to be sought for publication of extracts

Mr Justice Mukherjee is presumably going to see Sir John Figgens who I think is still alive and living near Reading. He was a member of the Ken UK Liaison Mission to Japan and as such interviewed the Japanese survivors of the aircraft crew, including the Captain NONAKI, who helped Habibullah Rehman beat out the flames that had engulfed Netaji. One couldn't get closer to reality than that.

Yours sincerely

/Hugh Tor

Note: A BBC broadcast on the morning of 12 August (already afternoon in Singapore) had been taken down by Dr Lakshumeyah's secretary. It clearly indicated that Japan was about to surrender

(203)

At about 2 a.m. on August 13th, Dr Lakshumeyah, who had been left in charge in Singapore, arrived in Seremban to give Bose this news, too sensitive for the telephone. It was a hot night; Bose was sitting in his vest under a fan. 'So that is that', he said. 'Now, what next?' Then, with leaden irony, 'Well, don't you see that we are the only people who have not surrendered?' Where indeed did his Government stand? Had Japan expected him to declare war on Russia two days ago? Odd, he had not thought of that. The talk wandered on until the messengers went to bed. 'Now we have got to think out what we shall do,' he said quietly to Ayer as they sat on the verandah outside his room. Ayer was anxious that he should have some sleep - but there was to be little rest that night - 'It doesn't matter. We shall have plenty of rest from tomorrow on.'

Netaji reached Singapore during the evening of August 13th and was soon immersed in discussions with his advisers. Despite the news, which conveyed little of the awesome devastation of the atomic bomb, only slowly comprehended even in Tokyo, he could not believe that the Japanese would give in. On the 14th there was a Special Order of the Day warning against rumours. "We have to face any situation that may arise, like brave soldiers fighting for the freedom of their Motherland."³² In the afternoon he had a tooth out; in the evening he saw a play about the Rani of Jhansi staged by women of the Regiment. The routine work had been done, contingent orders drawn up for the IIL, for the disposal of funds and for general administration.

On Wednesday the 15th the Emperor of Japan, his guards having defeated the last die-hard attempt of the previous night to ward off the inevitable, spoke sadly and bravely to his people. Hachiya gave formal notice of the surrender. The discussions were resumed, the last Order of the Day written, the final message prepared.³³ What was to be done? Netaji's first impulse had been not to surrender. Let his Commander-in-Chief, Major General Kiani, take contingents of INA guerrillas into the Malayan jungle to resist and harass the British when they arrived. Kiani refused: this would merely invite reprisals on the Indian population; fighting on alone where it could not affect the situation in India was unjustified. The right course, he said, was to face the British in surrender here in Singapore, where the movement had begun and could best assert its identity. The struggle

could be resumed if necessary when they got home. That was what he himself meant to do. But for Bose, for a revolutionary with arms in his hands, it went against the grain to lay them down unresisting. - Kiani had not reached the status of revolutionary and said so.³⁴

204

Netaji then accepted the general consensus that the INA should surrender as it stood and that all records should be destroyed. What was not acceptable to him was that he should surrender in person:

'He was..unambiguous about his determination never again to fall into British hands. ... He was sure...that the British would try to humiliate him. This he would never accept.'³⁵

Better far another leap into the dark, a new 'search of the Unknown'. The British had won their war - the facts that Churchill had lost a General Election, and that the views of the new Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, on the independence of India were known to be different, were forgotten or ignored. The end of the war would not end the fight for independence. There must still be resistance within, armed struggle without and help from abroad. The Japanese bar on an approach to Russia was no longer valid; might there not be a chance in the coming confusion to seek asylum there? How far had the Soviet Armies got? When would they reach Dairen at the southern tip of Manchuria, his nearest possible point of contact with them? Kiani had withdrawn from the argument:

'Subhas Chandra Bose wished that he should go away from Singapore and outside of the countries which were likely to be occupied by the Anglo-American forces so that he would not fall into their hands... He wanted to be captured by .. (the Russians) with the possibility of his being ultimately taken to Moscow.' There 'he had obviously hoped that he would have a role to play with regard to the freedom of his country during the post-war years.'³⁶

The discussions went on until just before sunrise on the 16th when the decision was made. Bose would leave, taking with him as many as possible of his advisers and in particular Kiani: 'Unfortunately', says Kiani, 'it fell to my lot to disagree.' Of the others, Raghavan was unwell in Penang, Swami still had work to do there and arrived too late, ³⁷ Lakshumeyah was too involved in the financial dispositions, some chose not to come; Thivy and Chatterji, hurrying from Taiping, never caught up with him. A committee was appointed to take charge in Singapore, with Kiani as representative of the Provisional Government. Bose left in his own aircraft at 9.30 a.m. with Ayer, Habib-ur-Rehman and his hero of the Palel fight, Pritam Singh. Others, he hoped, would follow.

In Bangkok he saw his most senior officer, Bhonsle, and Lieutenant-General Isoda who advised him to approach Southern Command Headquarters in Saigon. He toured the camps and made his last speeches to the soldiers, speeches they would never forget: 'Although we have to surrender now,' he said, 'we carry on the fight for India's freedom'. There was a last dinner party for his officers. He paid tribute to what they had achieved; let them not think of defeat - the INA had inspired in the Indian masses a unity and spirit which would never die. Let them retain their dignity and preach the cause. At half past five in the morning of the 17th Netaji and six of his officers were at the airport. Isoda and Hachiya accompanied them to Saigon. F.M. Terauchi, already a sick man, was at Dalat in the hills, where Isoda visited him and obtained authority to 'respect Bose's wishes' and send him with Lieutenant-General Shidei who was to leave that day for Dairen in Manchuria.³⁸ There wasn't room for all but a second seat was found in the heavily loaded aircraft. Habib-ur-Rehman, the Chief of Staff, was chosen to accompany his leader. The other five were to follow. If not they were to make their own way to India and continue the fight. It was a hurried, bewildered parting for which nobody was quite ready. 'Jai Hind', he said as he shook hands, 'I will see you later'.

There was tension also for the Japanese. Surrender having been formally ordered on the 16th, on the 17th the Imperial Princes left Tokyo to pass on the Emperor's order in person to the field armies.³⁹ Airfield staff were preoccupied with the Imperial travellers, and Shidei's plane took off without ceremony at 5 p.m. It landed at Tourane (later Da Nang) in Vietnam during the evening. Isoda signalled Bose's departure to Hikari Kikan Headquarters in Bangkok:

'Today at 1700hrs "T" [code for Bose] with Lt-Gen Shidei and others left here for Tokyo via Formosa and Dairen. Inform Indian community of this'.

At Tourane the anxious crew lightened the plane by removing its heavy machine-guns. The flight was resumed at five next morning, and Taipei in Formosa reached at noon. The passengers had lunch while the plane was refuelled and checked over. At about 2 p.m. it took off and was barely airborne when the port engine failed: the aircraft crashed and caught fire just off the end of the runway.⁴⁰ The two Indians struggled from the wreckage. Netaji, his clothes soaked in petrol from a broken tank, was ablaze. Habib and the aircraft Captain, Lieut-Colonel Nonogaki, beat out the flames, but there were head injuries as well as terrible burns on face and body.

(206)

Even before he was taken to hospital Bose seems to have realised that he would not recover. 'I feel that I shall die', he said to Habib in Urdu, 'I have fought for Indian Independence until the last. Tell my countrymen, India will be free before long. Long live Free India'.41

Habib-ur-Rehman was near his master's bedside throughout the afternoon and evening, while life ebbed away. Three or four Japanese doctors attended him, the chief being Captain Taneyoshi Yosimi who survived to be interviewed for a BBC film in 1997. ^{Netaji} ~~and he~~ remained conscious for several hours, calm, asking for water, talking with Habib for a time and stoically dictating a message of thanks to Terauchi through an interpreter. But it was clear that nothing could save him. Soon after nine o'clock he sank into a coma; at eleven or a little after, he was gone. His worst enemy would not have wished for Netaji those last hours of hideous pain. He bore them bravely without complaint, like the hero he was. 42

Habib tried to have the body embalmed or transported to Singapore, but in the general confusion this proved impossible. Two days later, on Monday, August 20th, Netaji was cremated at Taipei. The ashes were taken to Japan by Habib-ur-Rehman, when he had recovered sufficiently from his own injuries, on September 5th. Funeral rites were observed on September 14th at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, where Netaji's ashes, greatly revered, remain.

News of Bose's death did not reach the outside world until August 21st when the Japanese released the news and the bare, horrifying, facts were broadcast from Delhi. The nine senior officers and ministers who were by then trying to follow him stopped, stunned and confused, in Saigon, Hanoi, Tokyo, wherever they happened to be. Everywhere Indians mourned, for a time half-believing that some miracle would cause him to reappear, that this was some new stratagem of disappearance; and a few still look for him, or see him momentarily, disguised as a Sanyasi, roaming the hills and villages of India. But it is certain that he died on August 18th, 1945, in the Japanese Military Hospital at Taipei. Had he survived and reached Dairen, where the Russians arrived on August 22nd, he would have tried to place himself and as many of his faithful friends as possible under their protection. This was something he still had to do for India, his last and decisive contribution to her freedom.

30. This account of Bose's last days relies on S.A. Ayer Unto Him a Witness (Bombay, 1954), pp.49-54.

31. Dr Muthu Krishna Lukshumeyah, interview 1946. Dr Lakshumeyah had served on the IIL Malayan Territorial Committee until 1945, when he was asked by Bose to take charge of Rear HQ. The BBC News at 8 a.m.(GMT) on Sunday August 12th 1945, which would have been received in Singapore during the afternoon, read:

'The next word on surrender lies with Japan. The reply embodying the views of the United States, Russia, China, and Britain and of our Dominions was passed on to the Japanese envoy in the Swiss capital late last night. But, of course, Japan must have known the essence of the reply long before that as it had been beamed by America's news service to the Pacific within a few minutes of its despatch from the White House. The Japanese Emperor received Tojo, the Foreign Minister, in audience last night - Sunday morning Japanese time - and heard from him a report on what the official broadcast described as "matters under his jurisdiction".' BBC Written Archives Centre, Caversham Park, Reading.

32. Appx II No 14.

33. Appx II Nos 15 and 16.

34. Mohd Zaman Kiani, India's Freedom Struggle and the Great INA, New Delhi 1994, pp.161-164 contains the only account by a participant of the last discussions in Singapore.

35. Kiani, op.cit. p.163.

36. Kiani, op.cit. p.162.

37. Sent to Penang to move his espionage academy to Saigon, Swami had ended by helping the Japanese set up a stay-behind network in territories they were likely to lose.

38. Saito and Hayashida in S.K. Bose (ed) A Beacon Across Asia pp.222 and following have a full account of the journey. According to this Terauchi ordered Bose's flight on his own authority, with Shidei who was bound for Manchuria, contrary to orders from Tokyo. SACSEA Commission No 1 confirmed from the Japanese Air Staff in Saigon that the journey was to have been to Tokyo via Dairen: letter 63/2/34/GSI(b) of 6 Nov 45 to SACSEA.

39. For parallel events in Tokyo see Woodburn Kirby, op.cit. Vol V, pp.208-218. Prince Kaniu was ordered to go to Saigon and Singapore, Prince Asaka to China and Prince Takeda to Manchuria: Toshikazu Kase, Eclipse of the Rising Sun, (London, 1951), p.254. See also for general timetable, Martin Gilbert Second World War, (London, 1989) pp.715-717.

40. There are several accounts of the crash with some contradictory details. Saito and Hayashida, loc.cit. have given a careful interpretation of what is known. Gordon, op.cit. has a very detailed account. The most immediate is perhaps the statement of Lieut-Colonel Nonogaki to Lieut-Colonel (now Sir John) Figgess of the UK Liaison Mission in Japan, and reported by him to SACSEA on 25 July 1946.

41. Habib-ur-Rehman interviewed at CSDIC(I) in December 1945.

42. Gordon, op.cit. pp. 541-3 has the most detailed account of Bose's injuries and death. Sir John Figgess's report contains the evidence of Sub Lieut (Medical) Tsuruta Toyoshi who assisted in Bose's treatment. An article, 'The Inside Story of Bose's Death', based on an interview with Sachindo Shyone, a former nurse who looked after Bose in his last hours,

in the paper Yukan Miye, published in Honshu 20 August 1946, is the source for the message to Terauchi. The Senior Medical Officer of the Nanmon Hospital, Captain Taneyoshi Yosimi who attended him on arrival and supervised his treatment, made a detailed statement to a War Crimes Liaison Team in Stanley Gaol Hongkong on 19 October 1946 (PRO, WO 208/3812). Dr Taneyoshi was also interviewed for the BBC film, Enemy of Empire, in 1995. His evidence is clear and conclusive as to Bose's identity, injuries, condition and death.

5, FARM CLOSE LANE
WHEATLEY
OXFORD OX33 1UG
01865 872500

Imp Pl. Dismiss
Consol. Dismiss
16 April 01 1994

Dear High Commissioner,

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210

OXFORD OXES LUG
WHEATLEY
B. FARM CLOSE LANE

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Yours sincerely
Hugh Tor

Note: A BBC broadcast on the morning of 12 August (already afternoon in Singapore) had been taken down by Dr Lakshumeyah's secretary. It clearly indicated that Japan was about to surrender

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'Subhas Chandra Bose wished that he should go away from Singapore and outside of the countries which were likely to be occupied by the Anglo-American forces so that he would not fall into their hands... He wanted to be captured by .. (the Russians) with the possibility of his being ultimately taken to Moscow.' There 'he had obviously hoped that he would have a role to play with regard to the freedom of his country during the post-war years.'36

The discussions went on until just before sunrise on the 16th when the decision was made. Bose would leave, taking with him as many as possible of his advisers and in particular Kiani: 'Unfortunately', says Kiani, 'it fell to my lot to disagree.' Of the others, Raghavan was unwell in Penang, Swami still had work to do there and arrived too late, 37

Lakshumeyah was too involved in the financial dispositions, some chose not to come; Thivy and Chatterji, hurrying from Taiping, never caught up with him. A committee was appointed to take charge in Singapore, with Kiani as representative of the Provisional Government. Bose left in his own aircraft at 9.30 a.m. with Ayer, Habib-ur-Rehman and his hero of the Palel fight, Pritam Singh. Others, he hoped, would follow.

In Bangkok he saw his most senior officer, Bhonsle, and Lieutenant-General Isoda who advised him to approach Southern Command Headquarters in Saigon. He toured the camps and made his last speeches to the soldiers, speeches they would never forget: 'Although we have to surrender now,' he said, 'we carry on the fight for India's freedom'. There was a last dinner party for his officers. He paid tribute to what they had achieved; let them not think of defeat - the INA had inspired in the Indian masses a unity and spirit which would never die. Let them retain their dignity and preach the cause. At half past five in the morning of the 17th Netaji and six of his officers were at the airport. Isoda and Hachiya accompanied them to Saigon. F.M.Terauchi, already a sick man, was at Dalat in the hills, where Isoda visited him and obtained authority to 'respect Bose's wishes' and send him with Lieutenant-General Shidei who was to leave that day for Dairen in Manchuria.³⁸ There wasn't room for all but a second seat was found in the heavily loaded aircraft. Habib-ur-Rehman, the Chief of Staff, was chosen to accompany his leader. The other five were to follow. If not they were to make their own way to India and continue the fight. It was a hurried, bewildered parting for which nobody was quite ready. 'Jai Hind', he said as he shook hands, 'I will see you later'.

There was tension also for the Japanese. Surrender having been formally ordered on the 16th, on the 17th the Imperial Princes left Tokyo to pass on the Emperor's order in person to the field armies.³⁹ Airfield staff were preoccupied with the Imperial travellers, and Shidei's plane took off without ceremony at 5 p.m. It landed at Tourane (later Da Nang) in Vietnam during the evening. Isoda signalled Bose's departure to Hikari Kikan Headquarters in Bangkok:

'Today at 1700hrs "T" [code for Bose] with Lt-Gen Shidei and others left here for Tokyo via Formosa and Dairen. Inform Indian community of this'.

At Tourane the anxious crew lightened the plane by removing its heavy machine-guns. The flight was resumed at five next morning, and Taipei in Formosa reached at noon. The passengers had lunch while the plane was refuelled and checked over. At about 2 p.m. it took off and was barely airborne when the port engine failed: the aircraft crashed and caught fire just off the end of the runway.⁴⁰ The two Indians struggled from the wreckage. Netaji, his clothes soaked in petrol from a broken tank, was ablaze. Habib and the aircraft Captain, Lieut-Colonel Nonogaki, beat out the flames, but there were head injuries as well as terrible burns on face and body.

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Even before he was taken to hospital Bose seems to have realised that he would not recover. 'I feel that I shall die', he said to Habib in Urdu, 'I have fought for Indian Independence until the last. Tell my countrymen, India will be free before long. Long live Free India'.41

Habib-ur-Rehman was near his master's bedside throughout the afternoon and evening, while life ebbed away. Three or four Japanese doctors attended him, the chief being Captain Taneyoshi Yosimi who survived to be interviewed for a BBC film in 1997, ^{Netaji} and he remained conscious for several hours, calm, asking for water, talking with Habib for a time and stoically dictating a message of thanks to Terauchi through an interpreter. But it was clear that nothing could save him. Soon after nine o'clock he sank into a coma; at eleven or a little after, he was gone. His worst enemy would not have wished for Netaji those last hours of hideous pain. He bore them bravely without complaint, like the hero he was. 42

Habib tried to have the body embalmed or transported to Singapore, but in the general confusion this proved impossible. Two days later, on Monday, August 20th, Netaji was cremated at Taipei. The ashes were taken to Japan by Habib-ur-Rehman, when he had recovered sufficiently from his own injuries, on September 5th. Funeral rites were observed on September 14th at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, where Netaji's ashes, greatly revered, remain.

News of Bose's death did not reach the outside world until August 21st when the Japanese released the news and the bare, horrifying, facts were broadcast from Delhi. The nine senior officers and ministers who were by then trying to follow him stopped, stunned and confused, in Saigon, Hanoi, Tokyo, wherever they happened to be. Everywhere Indians mourned, for a time half-believing that some miracle would cause him to reappear, that this was some new stratagem of disappearance; and a few still look for him, or see him momentarily, disguised as a Sanyasi, roaming the hills and villages of India. But it is certain that he died on August 18th, 1945, in the Japanese Military Hospital at Taipei. Had he survived and reached Dairen, where the Russians arrived on August 22nd, he would have tried to place himself and as many of his faithful friends as possible under their protection. This was something he still had to do for India, his last and decisive contribution to her freedom.

30. This account of Bose's last days relies on S.A. Ayer Unto Him a Witness (Bombay, 1954), pp.49-54.

31. Dr Muthu Krishna Lukshumeyah, interview 1946. Dr Lakshumeyah had served on the IIL Malayan Territorial Committee until 1945, when he was asked by Bose to take charge of Rear HQ. The BBC News at 8 a.m. (GMT) on Sunday August 12th 1945, which would have been received in Singapore during the afternoon, read:

'The next word on surrender lies with Japan. The reply embodying the views of the United States, Russia, China, and Britain and of our Dominions was passed on to the Japanese envoy in the Swiss capital late last night. But, of course, Japan must have known the essence of the reply long before that as it had been beamed by America's news service to the Pacific within a few minutes of its despatch from the White House. The Japanese Emperor received Tojo, the Foreign Minister, in audience last night - Sunday morning Japanese time - and heard from him a report on what the official broadcast described as "matters under his jurisdiction".' BBC Written Archives Centre, Caversham Park, Reading.

32. Appx II No 14.

33. Appx II Nos 15 and 16.

34. Mohd Zaman Kiani, India's Freedom Struggle and the Great INA, New Delhi 1994, pp.161-164 contains the only account by a participant of the last discussions in Singapore.

35. Kiani, op.cit. p.163.

36. Kiani, op.cit. p.162.

37. Sent to Penang to move his espionage academy to Saigon, Swami had ended by helping the Japanese set up a stay-behind network in territories they were likely to lose.

38. Saito and Hayashida in S.K. Bose (ed) A Beacon Across Asia pp.222 and following have a full account of the journey. According to this Terauchi ordered Bose's flight on his own authority, with Shidei who was bound for Manchuria, contrary to orders from Tokyo. SACSEA Commission No 1 confirmed from the Japanese Air Staff in Saigon that the journey was to have been to Tokyo via Dairen: letter 63/2/34/GSI(b) of 6 Nov 45 to SACSEA.

39. For parallel events in Tokyo see Woodburn Kirby, op.cit. Vol V, pp.208-218. Prince Kaniu was ordered to go to Saigon and Singapore, Prince Asaka to China and Prince Takeda to Manchuria: Toshikazu Kase, Eclipse of the Rising Sun, (London, 1951), p.254. See also for general timetable, Martin Gilbert Second World War, (London, 1989) pp.715-717.

40. There are several accounts of the crash with some contradictory details. Saito and Hayashida, loc.cit. have given a careful interpretation of what is known. Gordon, op.cit. has a very detailed account. The most immediate is perhaps the statement of Lieut-Colonel Nonogaki to Lieut-Colonel (now Sir John) Figgess of the UK Liaison Mission in Japan, and reported by him to SACSEA on 25 July 1946.

41. Habib-ur-Rehman interviewed at CSDIC(I) in December 1945.

42. Gordon, op.cit. pp. 541-3 has the most detailed account of Bose's injuries and death. Sir John Figgess's report contains the evidence of Sub Lieut (Medical) Tsuruta Toyoshi who assisted in Bose's treatment. An article, 'The Inside Story of Bose's Death', based on an interview with Sachindo Shyone, a former nurse who looked after Bose in his last hours,

in the paper Yukan Miye, published in Honshu 20 August 1946, is the source for the message to Terauchi. The Senior Medical Officer of the Nanmon Hospital, Captain Taneyoshi Yosimi who attended him on arrival and supervised his treatment, made a detailed statement to a War Crimes Liaison Team in Stanley Gaol Hongkong on 19 October 1946 (PRO, WO 208/3812). Dr Taneyoshi was also interviewed for the BBC film, Enemy of Empire, in 1995. His evidence is clear and conclusive as to Bose's identity, injuries, condition and death.



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor(Pol)

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

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April 18, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Graham,


You will recall our telephonic conversation regarding the visit by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I have been informed that the Chairperson and Secretary of the Commission will visit the United Kingdom for a period of ten days from May 10, 2001. As discussed with you earlier, the members of the Commission would like to study the recently declassified records pertaining to Netaji at the British Library.

I would be grateful for your assistance in facilitating access to the British Library's records to the members of the Commission.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Mr. Graham Shaw,
Head of the Oriental and India Office
Library Collections
The British Library,
96, Euston Road
LONDON NW1 2DB



H.S.Puri
Acting High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

218

April 10, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Lord Archer,

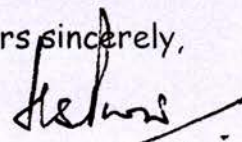
The Government of India have constituted a Commission of Inquiry, with Justice M.K. Mukherjee as its Chairperson, to enquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The Chairperson and the Secretary of the Commission are visiting the United Kingdom for a period of ten days from May 10, 2001 to study recently de-classified records pertaining to Netaji at the British Library in London and to interview some eminent personalities who might be able to shed further light on the work of the Commission.

The Commission has expressed a desire to interview you as one of the witnesses. I have, therefore, been asked by the Commission to ascertain your convenience for meeting them on any day between May 10 and May 18, 2001.

I shall be grateful for an early response.

Yours sincerely,


(H.S. Puri)

Rt. Hon. The Lord Archer of Sandwell,
Highcroft, Hill View Road
Wraysbury, Staines
Middlesex TW 19 5EQ



H.S.Puri
Acting High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

29

April 10, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Col.,

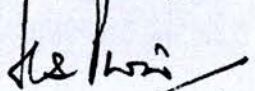
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I shall be grateful for an early response.

Yours sincerely,


(H.S. Puri)

Col Hugh Toy,
5 Firm Close Lane
Wheatley,
Oxford 33-1



H.S.Puri
Acting High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमिशन, लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

220

April 10, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Sir Malcolm,

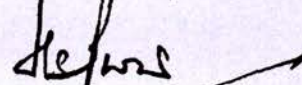
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I shall be grateful for an early response.

Yours sincerely,


(H.S. Puri)

The Rt. Hon. Sir Malcolm Rifkind, KCMG QC
Eskgrove House
Inveresk
East Lothian
EH21 7TD

PRADYOT KUMAR SENGUPTA,
M.Com., LL.B., WBHJS (Retd.)

Ex-District & Sessions Judge,
Ex-Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Judicial Department,
Guest Lecturer, Calcutta University Law College,
Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the alleged
disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

IB-134 Salt Lake
Sector III
Calcutta 700 091
Phone:
Res: 335-5714
Off: : 252-2767
Fax : 252-2765

e-mail : jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

Ref:JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/649

Date : 27th March 2001

To
Shri H.S. Puri
Deputy High Commissioner
The High Commission of India
India House, Aldwych
LONDON WC2B 4NA

Subject : **Proposed visit of the Commission to the U.K. to study the de-classified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the British Library and to examine certain persons as witness.**

Sir,

I am directed to request you to kindly refer to your confidential d.o. letter no. Lon/Pol/103/17/00 dated 27.02.01 to Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi, a copy of which has been forwarded to this Commission by Shri Jayant Prasad along with his d.o. no. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI dated 8.3.2001, a copy whereof is enclosed for ready reference.

Thanking you for your assurance that secretarial assistance and office equipment would be made available to the Commission during its visit to U.K., I am to inform you that the Commission proposes to visit U.K. from May 10, 2001 for the aforesaid purpose. It may take 10 (ten) consecutive working days to accomplish the work of the Commission. During this period, the Commission proposes to examine the following persons as witnesses :

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Lord Peter Archer,
7, Old School Court,
Wraysbury, Staines,
Middlesex T.W.195 B P | 2. Col. Hugh Toy,
5 Firm Close Lane,
Wheatley,
Oxford 33-1-England | 3. Lord Malcom Rifkind
former Foreign Secretary
of the British Government. |
|---|---|--|

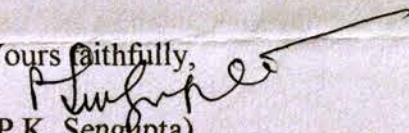
The Commission has not yet been able to communicate with or contact the aforesaid persons from this end. The addresses of the aforesaid persons have been furnished by one of the deponents before the Commission. I am directed to say that it would be highly appreciated by the Commission if you kindly make it convenient to contact the aforesaid persons from your end and let the Commission know whether they would be available for examination during the aforesaid period.

I am further directed to request you to kindly make all necessary arrangements for accommodation, transport etc. for the members of the team during their stay in U.K.

An early reply in confirmation would be highly appreciated.

It may be mentioned here that this programme of visit to U.K. has been drawn up in anticipation of extension of the present term of the Commission expiring on 14.5.2001. A proposal has already been sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, for extension of the term of the Commission for a further period of one year beyond 14.5.2001.

Yours faithfully,


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Ref:JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/649(3)

Date : 27th March 2001

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to :-

1. Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, South Block, New Delhi 110 001
2. Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of Archives, Govt. of India, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001
3. Smt. Sangeeta Gairola, Joint Secretary (IS), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi 110 001

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

222

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPEED POST

JMC 2346
12/3/2001

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.VI

8th March, 2001.

Dear Shri Sengupta,

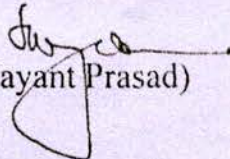
Please refer to your letter dated January 31, 2001 regarding the proposed visit to U.K. of the Commission to study the declassified records pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the British Library.

2. On receipt of the Commission's letter under reference, we had written to the High Commission of India, London for making necessary arrangements required by the Commission. The High Commission of India has since replied vide their letter dated February 27, 2001 (copy enclosed) which is self-explanatory.

3. You are requested to confirm the dates of travel to enable us to inform the High Commission accordingly. Further, should the Commission wish to examine any witness or any specialist in U.K., it is requested that the Commission may send them messages directly or route them through High Commission of India, London ensuring that the High Commission has sufficient time for contacting them and ensuring their co-operation as has been mentioned in DHC's letter.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087.



118/DHE/01

22/3

128/ME/01

22/3

103/17/00

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

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9/4/01

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPEED POST

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.VI

16th March, 2001.

Dear Shri Sengupta.

Further to our conversation in my office today, I would like to advise you that the moment the Commission's dates of travel to London are finalised, these may be conveyed simultaneously to the Deputy High Commissioner, Shri H.S. Puri and to the undersigned for us to be able to make necessary arrangements. We are conveying to the High Commission, meanwhile, that the Commission is ^{un}likely to visit U.K. ~~not~~ before the next month.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely,

Jayant
(Jayant Prasad)

For Inf. Shri P.K. Sengupta
Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087

MS
22/3

Cons. H.S. Puri
CC Shri H.S. Puri
DHC, London

99/DHC/01

15/3

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1521/20101
2813

103/12/00

विदेश मन्त्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
एन. जी. ओ. कक्ष
N. G. O. Section
नई दिल्ली
New Delhi

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPEED POST

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.VI

8th March, 2001.

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Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Please coordinate
this.

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (Third Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087

CC. Shri Hardip S. Rao
DHC London

but agreed to



सत्यमेव जयते

H.S. Puri
Deputy High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH

LONDON WC2B 4NA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

27th February, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Jayant,

Kindly refer to your letter No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI dated February 13, 2001 regarding the proposed visit to the UK by the Chairman and Secretary of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to study declassified records pertaining to the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

2. We have spoken to the British Library. Mr. Graham Shaw, the Head of the Oriental and India Office Collections, has indicated that Readers passes would be made available to the members of the delegation through which they would be able to use the reading room at the British Library. It is good that the delegation plans to arrive here at the end of April as we have been told by reliable sources that there is a possibility of an industrial action at the British Library towards the end of March.

3. As regards secretarial assistance and office equipment, there would be no difficulty in making these available to the members of the delegation.

4. Your letter mentions that the Commission would be examining some witnesses such as Lord Archer and Lord Rifkind. I presume that the Commission is contacting them directly for meetings. In case any assistance is required from us, I would appreciate receiving sufficient advance notice.

Warm regards,
Yours sincerely,

H.S. Puri
(H.S. Puri)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
JS(AMS & CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI



H.S. Puri
Deputy High Commissioner

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH

LONDON WC2B 4NA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

27th February, 2001

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

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Yours sincerely,

(H.S. Puri)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
JS(AMS & CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI



57/DHC/01
19/2

MOST IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

227

JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(AMS & CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI

February 13, 2001

My dear Hardeep,

Ann
Please check previous records. Arrows, very early. I would like to send a reply this week. Govt. (Chaghe)

Justice M.K.Mukherjee, Chairman of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, proposes to visit U.K. in the last week of April, 2001 in order to study the declassified records of the British Library in London. Justice Mukherjee would be accompanied by Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary to the Commission. The Commission also desires to examine some witnesses based in U.K. like Lord Peter Archer, Lord Malcon Rifkind(former Foreign Secretary of the British Parliament) and Colonel Hugh Toye who, from the affidavits filed and evidence given under oath by Dr.(Mrs.) Purabi Roy before the Commission, appear to be competent witnesses, besides other local witnesses, if any, who may be interested to depose before the Commission in response to the public notice to be issued by the Commission from London for this purpose.

The Commission has desired that our High Commission in London may provide them secretarial assistance and office equipment (i.e. typewriters and tape recorders etc.) for the proposed hearing in London and also make necessary arrangements to facilitate examination of the declassified records available in the British Library and issue of a public notice for the proposed hearing.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly confirm whether the assistance required by the Commission may be provided to enable us to send a reply to them accordingly.

best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Jaya
(Jayant Prasad)

Shri H.S.Puri,
Deputy High Commissioner,
High Commission of India,
London(U.K.)

16/2/01
Paper 11
up
16



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

228

Vani S.Rao
Under Secretary (EW-I)

107/12/00

No. 61/125/4/2000-EO

September 7, 2000

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to our previous correspondence with the Mission regarding Parliament Questions pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. You would be aware that the Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji. Shri P.K Sengupta, the Secretary of this Commission of Inquiry, has learnt from the British Deputy High Commission in Calcutta that nearly 700 files (which originated in the India Office Public and Judicial Department in London), released in 1997 are currently available for consultation in the Reading Room of India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London. Since these files have not yet been published, a team of officers from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry propose to visit U.K to examine these files. The National Archives of India has approached MEA for assistance in facilitating their visit to the Library and access to these files. Copies of correspondence are enclosed. Mission may kindly take this up with the necessary authorities. An early response would be appreciated.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vani S. Rao
(Vani S.Rao)

Shri Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol)
High Commission of India
London

May pl see

10/9

Handwritten signature

May pl. see (.)

19/9/00

H.C.

seen by me.

25/9

SA
Cons (Pol)



6692/15(LD)1P
6/9
D.O.No. F. 25-2(9)/2000.CC.

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार
जनपथ, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 001

229
Tele No. 3383436
Fax : 0091- 11- 3384127
E mail : archives@ren02.nic.in
Website : http://nationalarchives.nic.in

Dated the ...0...5 SEP. 2000...

DR. SUKUMAR SARKAR
Director General of Archives
Government of India

Dear Ms. Mukherji,

You may be aware that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to investigate the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We have received a reference from Sh. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary of the Commission, who visited National Archives of India, some time back, informing that there are about 700 files which have been recently thrown open for access to the scholars and some of them relating to Netaji are available in the British Library, London (copy of the letter along with a copy of letter from British High Commission, Calcutta are enclosed for ready reference). These files originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London and contain material relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

For facilitating the work of the Commission, it has been suggested that a team of officials from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry may visit London and examine the files available in the British Library.

I shall appreciate if you could request our Mission in London to take up the matter with the authorities of the British Library so as to enable us to work out the modalities and approach the Government of India for the approval of the proposed visit by a team of officials to London.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(S. Sarkar)

4.9.2000

11/10/00
Pl write
to NCI, London
R803
7/9
Ms. Bhaswati Mukherji,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi.

Has been done
Reply awaited.

50/100
SPK



S No 1/FA)

REGISTERED WITH A/D.

230

Pradyot Kumar Sengupta, WBHS (Retd.)
Ex-District & Sessions Judge, Ex-Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal, Judicial Department,
Secretary

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
For inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'B' Block (3rd floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta 700 087

Res: IB 134, Salt Lake City (Sector III)
Calcutta 700 091
☎ 335-5714

Office ☎ : 033-216-2835, 2765/68
Fax : 033-216-2765
e-mail : jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

D.O. NO. JMCI/Pub(N)/99-2000/56/235

Calcutta, dated the 29th August 2000

Dear Dr. Sarkar,

Kindly recall the discussions I had with you in your chamber as to how files numbering 700 available in the British Library in London could be studied and scrutinised in order to find out whether those files, which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London, contain any material or information about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and INA relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

I am directed to say that the Commission got information about those files from a letter dated 13.4.2000 of Sri Mainak De, Press & Publicity Affairs Adviser, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta, addressed to Sri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Calcutta. A copy of the letter is sent herewith for ready reference.

During the discussions in your chamber there was a suggestion that a joint team consisting of senior officials of the Commission and one or more competent officers of the National Archives of India might go to the British Library to study and examine the files. You were also good enough to tell me that the National Archives of India might do the needful for obtaining copies of relevant portions of those files, if necessary, after careful examination of the contents of the files.

I am directed to request you to kindly confirm the feasibility of such examination and scrutiny of the aforesaid files jointly by the Commission and the National Archives. As you have experience and expertise in this matter, I am directed to request you to render your valuable advice as to the procedure and modalities for undertaking the study of the files in British Library in London.

Further necessary action will be taken in this regard at this end on receiving your reply.

Expecting an early reply and with warm regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(Signature)
(P.K. Sengupta)

Enclo: As stated

Dr. Sukumar Sarkar
Director General of Archives,
National Archives of India
Government of India
Janpath
New Delhi 110 001

cc way
info to MFA
cc pl.
put up.

31/8/2000

13 April 2000

Mr Anil Mukherjee
Deputy Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Calcutta



British Deputy
High Commission
Calcutta

1, Ho Chi Minh Sarani
Calcutta 700 071

Telephone: 288-3681 (D) 288-5172/6
E-mail: Mainak.De@calcutta.mail.fco.gov.uk
Fax: 288-3435

Dear Mr Mukherjee,

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to our Deputy High Commissioner, Dr John Mitchiner, regarding declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had taken up the matter with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London. The records that have recently been released (in 1997) are a series of files which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. However, The files (which number 700) have not been published. The files themselves are available for consultation in the Reading Room. The files are public records and are open to researchers who are required to apply for a Reader's Pass from the British Library's Reader Admissions Office, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

However, since the files have not been published the only way for accessing them will be through a personal visit to the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mainak De'.

MAINAK DE
Press & Public Affairs Adviser



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol.)
Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164
Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695
E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

22nd September, 2000

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Refer your fax of September 18 regarding declassified British government records required by the Mukherjee Commission.

We had written to the Foreign Office, who in turn contacted the Head of the Oriental and India Office Library Collections at the British Library. The Head of the India Office Library would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and/or Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to examine them. We have also been informed that these files have additionally been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India.

I have requested Mr. Graham Shaw, the Head of the India Office Library Collection to inform me of the purchase price and will revert to you after hearing from him.

Yours sincerely,

Sel/-
(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
JS(CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

Copy to Shri BS Bishnoi, Director(EW), Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

[Signature]
(Vikas Swarup)



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

233

21 September 2000

London SW1A 2AH

Telephone: 0171

Mr R G Singh
Attaché
Indian High Commission
London

Dear Mr Singh

Please refer to your unnumbered Diplomatic Note of 20 September concerning the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry.

I have contacted the Head of the Oriental and India Office Library Collections at the British Library, Mr Graham Shaw, about the request to see files containing information on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Mr Shaw is familiar with these files and would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to examine them. Mr Shaw informs me that these files have, additionally, been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India.

Please contact Mr Shaw directly to arrange the visit. His telephone number is 020 7412 7838.

Yours Sincerely,

Kevin Brind
South Asian Department

020 7270 2337



TELEFAX

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel. No.301 1357
Fax No.379 2285

No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.V

September 18, 2000

My dear Sir,

As you are aware, Government of India has appointed a one-member Commission of Inquiry with Justice M.K. Mukherjee as its Chairperson to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Justice Mukherjee has been in correspondence with you regarding declassified British Government records (comprising some 700 files) that might have some bearing on his mandate. As discussed with you, we are advising the Commission to depute one of its officials to London for an *in-situ* examination of the files to find out whether or not they contain any material relevant to the work of the Commission. Alternately, they could mandate the Director, National Archives of India, to undertake this task on behalf of the Commission.

Meanwhile, it would be useful to send a request from the High Commission to the British Foreign Office, in the context of the setting up of this new Commission, to retrieve any available documentation pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that may be contained in the 700 unpublished files originating in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. These files are now public and have recently been placed with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri Nareshwar Dayal
High Commissioner of India
London

331
He/ADHC
Comm(Pol)



TELEPHONE: 0171-836 8484 EXT.....
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON W.C.2
TELEX: 267166 HCI LDN
FAX: 44 0171-836 4331

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन

235

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA,

..... DEPARTMENT
INDIA HOUSE,
ALDWYCH,
LONDON WC2B 4NA

NO.LON/POL/ / /00

September 20, 2000

The High Commission of India presents its compliments to the Foreign & Commonwealth Office of the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and has the honour to inform that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to look into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Secretary of the above mentioned Commission has come to know through the British Deputy High Commission in Calcutta that nearly 700 files (which originated in the India Office Public and Judicial Department in London) released in 1997 are currently available for consultation in the Reading Room of India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London. There are some files, out of these 700 files, related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. A team of officers from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry propose to visit UK to examine these files. The High Commission of India shall be grateful if the arrangements could kindly be made to make the relevant files accessible to the visiting Indian Team.

The High Commission of India avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign & Commonwealth Office of the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
The Government of the United Kingdom,
Northern Ireland,
King Charles Street,
London,
SW1A 2AH



236



TELEFAX

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel. No. 301 1357
Fax No. 379 2285

No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.V

September 18, 2000

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With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri Nareshwar Dayal
High Commissioner of India
London

331
H.C. / A.D.H.C.
Comm (P.O.)



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

237

Vani S.Rao
Under Secretary (EW-I)

No. W.I/125/4/2000-EW

September 7, 2000

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to our previous correspondence with the Mission regarding Parliament Questions pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. You would be aware that the Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged disappearance of Netaji. Shri P.K Sengupta, the Secretary of this Commission of Inquiry, has learnt from the British Deputy High Commission in Calcutta that nearly 700 files (which originated in the India Office Public and Judicial Department in London), released in 1997 are currently available for consultation in the Reading Room of India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London. Since these files have not yet been published, a team of officers from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry propose to visit U.K to examine these files. The National Archives of India has approached MEA for assistance in facilitating their visit to the Library and access to these files. Copies of correspondence are enclosed. Mission may kindly take this up with the necessary authorities. An early response would be appreciated.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vani S. Rao
(Vani S.Rao)

Shri Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol)
High Commission of India
London

May pl see

up
18/9

Aditya

May pl. see (.)

19/9/00

H.C



D.O.No. F. 25-2(9)/2000.CC.

DR. SUKUMAR SARKAR
Director General of Archives
Government of India

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार
जनपथ, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 001

Tele No. 3383436
Fax : 0091- 11- 3384127
E mail : archives@ren02.nic.in
Website : http://nationalarchives.nic.in

Dated the 05 SEP 2000

Dear Ms. Mukherji,

You may be aware that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to investigate the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We have received a reference from Sh. P.K. Sengupta, Secretary of the Commission, who visited National Archives of India, some time back, informing that there are about 700 files which have been recently thrown open for access to the scholars and some of them relating to Netaji are available in the British Library, London (copy of the letter along with a copy of letter from British High Commission, Calcutta are enclosed for ready reference). These files originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London and contain material relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

For facilitating the work of the Commission, it has been suggested that a team of officials from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry may visit London and examine the files available in the British Library. I shall appreciate if you could request our Mission in London to take up the matter with the authorities of the British Library so as to enable us to work out the modalities and approach the Government of India for the approval of the proposed visit by a team of officials to London.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(S. Sarkar)
4.9.2000

Ms. Bhaswati Mukherji,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi.

11/8/00
Pl write
to MCA, London
R89
2/9

Has been done
Reply awaited.
2/9

50/1501
SPK



S No 1/FA

239

REGISTERED WITH A/D.

Pradyot Kumar Sengupta, WBHS (Retd.)
Ex-District & Sessions Judge, Ex-Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal, Judicial Department,
Secretary

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
For inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'B' Block (3rd floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta 700 087

Res: IB 134, Salt Lake City (Sector III)
Calcutta 700 091
☎ 335-5714

Office ☎ : 033-216-2835, 2765/68
Fax : 033-216-2765
e-mail : jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

D.O. NO. JMCI/Pub(N)/99-2000/56/235

Calcutta, dated the 29th August 2000

Dear Dr. Sarkar,

Kindly recall the discussions I had with you in your chamber as to how files numbering 700 available in the British Library in London could be studied and scrutinised in order to find out whether those files, which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London, contain any material or information about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and INA relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

I am directed to say that the Commission got information about those files from a letter dated 13.4.2000 of Sri Mainak De, Press & Publicity Affairs Adviser, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta, addressed to Sri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Calcutta. A copy of the letter is sent herewith for ready reference.

During the discussions in your chamber there was a suggestion that a joint team consisting of senior officials of the Commission and one or more competent officers of the National Archives of India might go to the British Library to study and examine the files. You were also good enough to tell me that the National Archives of India might do the needful for obtaining copies of relevant portions of those files, if necessary, after careful examination of the contents of the files.

I am directed to request you to kindly confirm the feasibility of such examination and scrutiny of the aforesaid files jointly by the Commission and the National Archives. As you have experience and expertise in this matter, I am directed to request you to render your valuable advice as to the procedure and modalities for undertaking the study of the files in British Library in London.

Further necessary action will be taken in this regard at this end on receiving your reply.

Expecting an early reply and with warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.K. Sengupta)

Encl: As stated

Dr. Sukumar Sarkar
Director General of Archives,
National Archives of India
Government of India
Janpath
New Delhi 110 001

way
for to MEA
C pl.
put up.

1/29
31/8/2000



240

13 April 2000

Mr Anil Mukherjee
Deputy Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Calcutta

British Deputy
High Commission
Calcutta

1, Ho Chi Minh Sarani
Calcutta 700 071

Telephone: 288-3681 (D) 288-5172/6
E-mail: Mainak.De@calcutta.mail.fco.gov.uk
Fax: 288-3435

Dear Mr Mukherjee,

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to our Deputy High Commissioner, Dr John Mitchiner, regarding declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had taken up the matter with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London. The records that have recently been released (in 1997) are a series of files which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. However, The files (which number 700) have not been published. The files themselves are available for consultation in the Reading Room. The files are public records and are open to researchers who are required to apply for a Reader's Pass from the British Library's Reader Admissions Office, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

However, since the files have not been published the only way for accessing them will be through a personal visit to the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

MAINAK DE
Press & Public Affairs Adviser



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol.)
Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164
Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695
E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

241

26th September, 2000

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Sir,

Further to my message of even number dated 22nd September, 2000 regarding possible visit by members of the Justice Mukherji Commission to London, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter received from the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

242

Mr S K Mandal
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7840
Telephone 020 7412
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC2-109-96-26
your ref
date 21 September 2000

Dear Mr Mandal

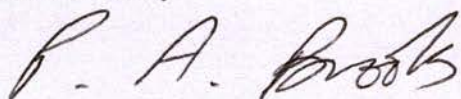
Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Shaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series – one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail: penny.brook@bl.uk

243



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol.)
Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164
Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695
E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

22nd September, 2000

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Sir,


Refer your fax of September 18 regarding declassified British government records required by the Mukherjee Commission.

We had written to the Foreign Office, who in turn contacted the Head of the Oriental and India Office Library Collections at the British Library. The Head of the India Office Library would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and/or Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to examine them. We have also been informed that these files have additionally been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India.

I have requested Mr. Graham Shaw, the Head of the India Office Library Collection to inform me of the purchase price and will revert to you after hearing from him.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
JS(CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

file
PN



TELEPHONE: 0171-836 8484 EXT.....
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON W.C.2
TELEX: 267166 HCI LDN
FAX: 44 0171-836 4331

भारत का हाई कमीशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT
INDIA HOUSE,
ALDWYCH,
LONDON WC2B 4NA

NO.LON/POL/12/17/00

September 20, 2000

The High Commission of India presents its compliments to the Foreign & Commonwealth Office of the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and has the honour to inform that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to look into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Secretary of the above mentioned Commission has come to know through the British Deputy High Commission in Calcutta that nearly 700 files (which originated in the India Office Public and Judicial Department in London) released in 1997 are currently available for consultation in the Reading Room of India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London. There are some files, out of these 700 files, related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. A team of officers from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry propose to visit UK to examine these files. The High Commission of India shall be grateful if the arrangements could kindly be made to make the relevant files accessible to the visiting Indian Team.

The High Commission of India avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign & Commonwealth Office of the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
The Government of the United Kingdom,
Northern Ireland,
King Charles Street,
London,
SW1A 2AH



245

103/12/00



TELEFAX

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel. No.301 1357
Fax No.379 2285

No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.V

September 18, 2000

My dear Sir,

As you are aware, Government of India has appointed a one-member Commission of Inquiry with Justice M.K. Mukherjee as its Chairperson to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Justice Mukherjee has been in correspondence with you regarding declassified British Government records (comprising some 700 files) that might have some bearing on his mandate. As discussed with you, we are advising the Commission to depute one of its officials to London for an *in-situ* examination of the files to find out whether or not they contain any material relevant to the work of the Commission. Alternately, they could mandate the Director, National Archives of India, to undertake this task on behalf of the Commission.

Meanwhile, it would be useful to send a request from the High Commission to the British Foreign Office, in the context of the setting up of this new Commission, to retrieve any available documentation pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that may be contained in the 700 unpublished files originating in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. These files are now public and have recently been placed with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad
Jayant Prasad

Shri Nareshwar Dayal
High Commissioner of India
London

331
He/ADHC
Coun(Pol)

Adm. Sec.

245
DW